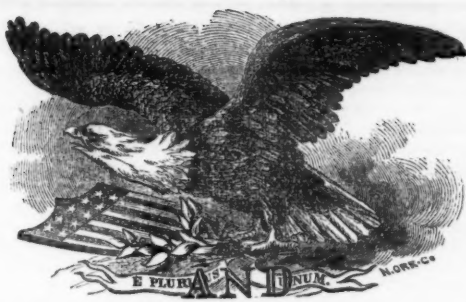


ARMY

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NAPOLEON'S CONFERENCE.

IN the last number of the *Tomahawk*, one of MATT. MORGAN'S most effective colored cartoons presents the dangers of the conference which NAPOLEON proposes for the settlement of the Papal problem. The drawing is styled "Rocks Ahead!" A row-boat manned by five persons is out at night on a very dark and stormy sea. Just beyond the bow is a villainous, rocky ledge, whereon is fixed a lighthouse, while the breakers no less than the flaming beacon show the peril ahead. The ledge is labelled "Conference," the lighthouse "History," the pinnacle "Europe." The two stern oarsmen are pulling away for dear life. The two bow oarsmen have discovered the reef, and are backing water in alarm. The likenesses show that the former represent Italy and Austria, the latter Prussia and England; immobile but attentive sits the steersman, NAPOLEON.

It is surprising how quickly, on the proposal of the Conference, all the greater Powers took the alarm, and fought shy of it. Russia was among the first to declare she would not have part nor lot in the matter. Lord STANLEY (the man who handles the bow-oar in the cartoon), on the part of England, and Count BISMARCK for Prussia, alike failed to "see" the advisability or expediency of a conference. They all fear a cat under the meal; they "spy a big beard under the muffler." The Roman question is one they did not raise, and which they, therefore, are not prepared to decide. They, doubtless, fear to meet NAPOLEON in the proposed conference. They have nothing to gain by it—certainly nothing. Each may, however, lose something by taking part in it, by becoming pledged—either absolutely, or by implication, or even by the endorsement of silence—to support the plan NAPOLEON proposes. Has not this consciousness something to do, not only with the non-appearance of some of the Powers in the Congress, but with their discountenancing it altogether? They wish to be free to act.

From England, on the one hand, we hear that it is the opinion of the British Ministry, as well as of the *London Times*, that the Conference, as originally designed, "can never meet." In Italy, on the other, the speech of M. ROCHER, in the *Corps Legislatif*, is seized upon as a pretext for the non-participation of VICTOR EMANUEL'S Government in the Conference. What a pretext! It is claimed that there can be no Conference, because France, as Minister ROCHER'S speech shows, has already "prejudged" the whole affair. But has not Italy also "prejudged" it? and has not the Holy See? It would be strange to rule out the parties most in interest because they had formed an opinion. PIUS IX. approves of the Conference, provided the assurance of the temporal power of the Pope be an admitted premise; and Italy approves of it, possibly; provided nothing of the sort be admitted. It is only quite another class of powers from Ru-

sia, Prussia, and England, on the one hand, and France, Italy, and the Holy See, on the other, who accept the Conference without looking that gift-horse in the mouth. Spain accepts it in good faith; and there is something quite chivalric and pertaining to another age than ours in the announcement by Queen ISABELLA, in the recent speech from the throne, that the power of Spain was pledged to maintain the temporal dominion of the Church. When so many powers are giving the descendant of GREGORY VII. and INNOCENT III. the cold shoulder, Spain's conduct comes out in bold relief.

It should seem probable that, despite the *London Times'* declaration, that the Conference will not be held, NAPOLEON will not allow himself to be thwarted. It may be a poor trumpety affair compared with the original intent; it may not even rise to the representative character of the London Conference of 1867; but it would hardly be wise for NAPOLEON to let it altogether fail, even if he should have to send his servants out into the highways and byways and bid the guests come in.

However, we would hardly like to predict that, from lack of "volunteers," NAPOLEON will have to draft for members of his Conference; Europe, in truth, has been pretty thoroughly recruited for that purpose, and what with "conscripts" and others, a respectable muster can be made. What is more to be remarked is that, if the other great powers do not join in the settlement of the Roman question, France will have to settle it alone.

What will be the upshot of the matter, Conference or no Conference? That is the question mooted now throughout Europe, without any satisfactory answer. Perhaps the drift of the current thus far may be briefly described as showing, first, that the temporal power of the Pope will be sustained for the present; and secondly, that, notwithstanding, the September Convention will be modified or abrogated. France might now make a bold stroke by abolishing that September agreement, whose integrity, lately, in arms against the Garibaldians, she so triumphantly upheld. She has defended the Pope against all comers; let her now, taking as an excuse the uncompromising obstinacy and the ingratitude of the Pope's advisers, arrange for the circumscription or the overthrow of the temporal power, after the death of PIUS IX. Should she achieve this without consultation or advice, or external pressure, it would probably be consented to by every power in Europe. Protestant Prussia and Greek Russia could hardly complain; Catholic Austria and Spain would find it fruitless to do so. France forced Italy to uphold the September Convention; let her repay Italy's obedience by voluntarily destroying that Convention. It costs many a franc to be always landing troops at Civita Vecchia and hoisting the tricolor over San Angelo. Meanwhile, the Cable sometimes hints at still another complication—what if, in the midst of the embroilment, the world should hear of the death of PLO NEXO?

LAST week information reached us of the shooting of two ex-officers of Volunteers, both of whom were acting in judicial capacities under the Government. Fortunately, the shooting of Judge BUSTEED at Mobile is not expected to result fatally, although two shots took effect in his body. In the case of Chief-Justice JOHN P. SLOUGH, of New

Mexico, however, the assault terminated fatally on the day succeeding the one on which it occurred. Judge SLOUGH is known to the Army as colonel of the First Colorado Volunteers, or, better, as brigadier-general and military governor of Alexandria. The circumstances attending the assault on the late General SLOUGH are sufficiently deplorable not to be dwelt on here, but it remained for the *Herald* to deal the deceased an additional wound by confounding him with the officer who was captured at Fairfax Court-house by the guerrilla MOSBY. The spirit of ruffianism and lawlessness evinced by these attacks is truly deplorable, and is one of the unfortunate results of the spirit of unrest which still exists in certain parts of the Republic. Later dispatches indicate that Judge BUSTEED'S wounds are likely to prove more serious than was at first anticipated.

THE *London Army and Navy Gazette* notices at length the points we made in answer to Captain NOBLE'S letter in defence of his unfortunate calculations in regard to the 15-inch gun. Our contemporary wisely refrains from attempting to defend the Captain's "slips in figures," as it calls them; and it accepts our conclusions in a spirit of commendable fairness. Yet it seems to doubt the statement that our artillery officers habitually use one hundred pounds of powder in the gun. Admiral FARRAGUT'S reported remark about the quantity of powder the 15-inch should receive, is unquestionably the occasion of this doubt. But our statement was of course made advisedly, and will be sustained by our artillery officers.

IT is, of course, Brevet Major-General T. W. SHERMAN who has this week succeeded Major-General MEADE in command of the Department of the East, and not, as some of the papers have it, Lieutenant-General W. T. SHERMAN. General SHERMAN takes command as the ranking officer in the Department: he is colonel of the Third Artillery.

THE statement which is being published, to the effect that the House Naval Committee had unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Navy not to make the contemplated removals in the Navy-yards in the United States in January, but to postpone action on the subject for the next sixty days, is entirely incorrect. Two members of the committee addressed a letter to the Secretary, asking that no removals be made in the Washington Navy-yard until after the meeting of Congress, but the other members of the committee in Washington declined to sign it. The Secretary, however, in view of the resolution of the House, did not feel authorized to take the responsibility of postponing action.

THE Prussian Government proposes to increase its naval power, and has asked the North German Parliament for a grant of \$3,000,000 to construct a Federal navy which shall operate with the Prussian force. Prussia already has five iron-clads, of 6,000, 3,800, 3,404, 1,250, and 772 tons, an aggregate of 63 guns; five corvettes of 28 guns, and an average of 1,700 tons; four corvettes of 14 and 17 guns, and 925 and 1,463 tons respectively; eight first-class gunboats, fourteen second class gunboats, and the usual small vessels.

WE publish elsewhere in this issue a very sensible article on practical retrenchment, from the *Detroit Post* which we recommend to the attention of our readers.

THE ARMY.

FOUR citizens who were recently tried before a military commission which convened at Charleston, S. C., were sentenced to be confined at hard labor for the period of one year. Brevet Major-General Canby, commanding the Second Military District, makes the following remarks on the case:

It appears from the investigation of the foregoing case, that on the afternoon of Saturday, November 2d, a dispute occurred between two persons, not parties to this trial, and that the interference of a third person resulted in a breach of the peace, the merits of which disturbance have not been investigated. The cause of the negro was espoused by some of his friends who, to the number of eight or ten, went to the house of Hartman, and demanded satisfaction for the alleged assault. After some angry discussion, the party left and applied to a neighboring magistrate to obtain a warrant for the arrest of Hartman. This, for some reason which does not appear, was refused, and the party then retired and announced their determination to take Hartman to Charleston and turn him over to the military authorities. The prisoners allege, in substance, that he volunteered to come with them, that there was no arrest and no violence; but the evidence is clear that the volunteering was under the constraint of threats that force would be employed if he refused. Upon reaching the city, Hartman was released, and the arresting party was turned over to the military authorities, and brought to trial upon the charge of false imprisonment.

It does not appear from the evidence, that the prisoners had any other motive in making the arrest than to procure, by proper means, the redress of a wrong that had been inflicted upon one of their companions. Failing to obtain action from the nearest civil authority, they assumed the power to arrest and bring the alleged offender before the nearest military authorities. This assumption was a legitimate deduction from the laws of the State and the practice toward the black population; but this power is subject to gross abuses, and its exercise should not be permitted except in the case of grave crimes, or when there is manifest danger that the delay in procuring the necessary warrant will enable the criminal to escape. There was no such necessity in this case, and both the arrest and the manner in which it was made, are without sufficient justification.

The commanding general thinks this is a proper occasion to invite attention to the fact, that several of the disorders that have recently been brought to his notice have resulted from the criminal conduct of white men to the blacks, and the indifference with which well-founded complaints of the latter have been treated by local magistrates. This course is not an impartial administration of justice, nor is it well calculated to preserve the peace of the community. The provost-marshal-General will cause the original parties to this transaction to be arrested and held to a proper accountability.

The proceedings, findings, and sentences in the foregoing case are approved. But in view of the fact that the arrest was not malicious or with criminal intent, the sentence is in each case mitigated to two months' confinement at hard labor, and, as mitigated, will be duly executed, under the direction of the commanding officer of the post of Charleston, S. C.

On the 28th ultimo General Grant issued the following order (General Orders No. 106):

By direction of the President of the United States the following orders are made:

1. Brevet Major-General E. O. C. Ord will turn over the command of the Fourth Military District to Brevet Major-General A. C. Gillem, and proceed to San Francisco, California, to take command of the Department of California.

2. On being relieved by Brevet Major-General Ord, Brevet Major-General Irwin McDowell will proceed to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and relieve General Gillem, in command of the Fourth Military District.

3. Brevet Major-General John Pope is hereby relieved of the command of the Third Military District, and will report without delay at the headquarters of the Army for further orders, turning over his command to the next senior officer until the arrival of his successor.

4. Major-General George G. Meade is assigned to the command of the Third Military District, and will assume it without delay.

The Department of the East will be commanded by the senior officer now on duty in it until a commander is named by the President.

5. The officers assigned in the foregoing orders to the command of military districts, will exercise therein any and all powers conferred by acts of Congress upon district commanders, and also any and all powers pertaining to military department commanders.

6. Brevet Major-General Wager Swayne, colonel Forty-fifth United States Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and will proceed to Nashville, Tennessee, and assume command of his regiment.

BREVET Major Cyrus A. Earnest, Second Lieutenant Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, has recently been tried before a General Court-martial which convened at Atlanta, Georgia, charged with "disobedience of orders." The court found Major Earnest guilty, and sentenced him to be reprimanded in General Orders. Brevet Major-General Pope, commanding the Third Military District, makes the following remarks in the case:

The fact of being found guilty is one of the gravest of military crimes, is deemed of itself a sufficient reprimand for Brevet Major Earnest. No form of words can express the condemnation due such conduct more forcibly or severely. It is fortunate for this officer that the court was disposed to take a charitable view of his motives, and impose upon him so lenient a sentence. It is a leniency that he can scarcely expect to receive again; nor

can intentions to do right be always held in mitigation of punishment for conduct manifestly wrong. The error into which Brevet Major Earnest fell, was in questioning the authority of the officer issuing the orders, he is found guilty of disobeying. While the Articles of War require the obedience of lawful orders only, it is not intended that error of judgment upon their legality shall excuse their disobedience. The officer who assumes this risk does so at his peril; and if the orders are not clearly proven illegal, must be justly held to all the consequences of his own wrong action, however correct his motives, or well meaning his intentions. Conflict of authority between officers is rarely ever excusable, and the habit, too often prevalent, of questioning upon various pretexts, the legality of orders received cannot be too strongly condemned.

GRANT, SHERMAN AND HALLECK.

THE following extract from "The Military History of General Grant," by Colonel Adam Badeau, gives some interesting facts concerning the relations between General Grant and Generals Sherman and Halleck in 1862:

On the 15th of February Grant was assigned to the new military district of West Tennessee, with "limits not defined," and Brigadier-General William T. Sherman to the command of the District of Cairo. Sherman had been at West Point with Grant, but graduated three years earlier, and they had not since been intimate; their first official intercourse occurred during the siege of Fort Donelson, when Sherman forwarded troops and supplies to Grant with extraordinary dispatch. Sherman was the senior, but, on the 13th of February, he wrote: "I will do every thing in my power to hurry forward your re-enforcements and supplies; and if I could be of service myself would gladly come, without making any question of rank with you or General Smith." After the fall of Fort Donelson, Sherman congratulated Grant warmly on his success, and Grant replied: "I feel under many obligations to you for the kind terms of your letter, and hope that should an opportunity occur, you will earn for yourself that promotion which you are kind enough to say belongs to me. I care nothing for promotion so long as our arms are successful, and no political appointments are made."

This was the beginning of a friendship destined thereafter never to flag, to stand the test of apparent rivalry and public censure, to remain firm under trials such as few friendships were ever subjected to, to become warmer as often as it was sought to be interrupted, and in hours of extraordinary anxiety and responsibility and care, to afford a solace and a support that were never lacking when the need arose.

On the 21st of February, General C. F. Smith, by Grant's direction, took possession of Clarksville, about fifty miles above Fort Donelson, and Grant wrote to Cullum announcing the fact, and proposing the capture of Nashville, but said, "I am ready for any move the general commanding may suggest." On the 24th he reported that Smith was at Clarksville, with four small regiments, and added: "I do not purpose sending more, until I know the pleasure of General Halleck on the subject." On the 25th, he said: "I wrote you that General Nelson's division (of Buell's army), had been sent to Nashville; since then I have learned that the head of General Buell's column had arrived on Monday evening. The Rebels have fallen back to Chattanooga, instead of to Murfreesboro, as stated in a former letter. I shall go to Nashville immediately after the arrival of the next mail, should there be no orders to prevent it. I am getting anxious to know what the next move is going to be." He went to Nashville, accordingly, on the 27th. His object was to consult with Buell about the disposition of their troops, the jurisdiction of the two commands having become somewhat confused during the recent movements. On the 28th, he wrote: "I have just returned from Nashville this morning. My impression is, from all I can learn, the enemy have fallen back to Decatur or Chattanooga. I have informed General Cullum that General Buell ordered General Smith from Clarksville, to join him at Nashville." On the 1st of March: "I have informed the general commanding the department, generally through his chief of staff, every day since leaving Cairo, of my wants, what information was obtained of the enemy," etc. The same dispatch contained a detailed declaration of the needs of the command, for the information of General Halleck. Up to this time no hint of dissatisfaction had been received by Grant.

The same day Halleck, with his usual caution, wrote: "It will be better to retreat than to risk a general battle. Avoid any general engagement with strong forces." He then gave detailed instructions to move the whole command from the Cumberland back to the Tennessee, with a view to an expedition up the latter river to Eastport, and even to Corinth, Mississippi. Grant received these instructions on the 2d, and on the 4th the army was in motion for the Tennessee, and he himself was again at Fort Henry. On the 3d of March, without a syllable of previous explanation or intimation to Grant, Halleck sent the following dispatch to the general-in-chief at Washington. "I have had no communication with General Grant for more than a week. He left his command without my authority, and went to Nashville. His army seems to be as much demoralized by the victory of Fort Donelson as was that of the Potomac by the defeat of Bull Run. It is hard to censure a successful general immediately after a victory, but I think he richly deserves it. I can get no returns, no reports, no information of any kind from him. Satisfied with his victory, he sits down and enjoys it, without any regard to the future. I am worn out and tired by this neglect and inefficiency. C. F. Smith is almost the only officer equal to the emergency." The next day, having probably received authority from Washington, he telegraphed to Grant: "You will place Major-General C. F. Smith in command of expedition, and remain yourself at Fort Henry. Why do you not obey my orders to report strength and position of your command?"

Grant replied on the 5th: "Your dispatch of yesterday

is just received. Troops will be sent under command of Major-General Smith, as directed. I had prepared a different plan, intending General Smith to command the forces which should go to Paris and Humboldt, while I would command the expedition upon Eastport, Corinth, and Jackson, in person. . . . I am not aware of ever having disobeyed any order from your headquarters—certainly never intended such a thing. I have reported almost daily the condition of my command, and reported every position occupied. . . . In conclusion, I will say that you may rely on my carrying out your instructions in every particular to the best of my ability."

On the 6th, Halleck telegraphed to Grant: "General McClellan directs that you report to me daily the number and position of the forces under your command. Your neglect of repeated orders to report the strength of your command, has created great dissatisfaction, and seriously interfered with military plans. Your going to Nashville without authority, and when your presence with your troops was of the utmost importance, was a matter of very serious complaint at Washington, so much so that I was advised to arrest you on your return."

On the 6th, Grant again telegraphed: "Your dispatch of yesterday just received. I did all I could to get you returns of the strength of my command. Every move I made was reported daily to your chief of staff, who must have failed to keep you properly posted. I have done my best to obey orders, and to carry out the interests of the service. If my course is not satisfactory, remove me at once. I do not wish in any way to impede the success of our arms. I have averaged writing more than once a day since leaving Cairo, to keep you informed of my position, and it is no fault of mine if you have not received my letters. My going to Nashville was strictly intended for the good of the service, and not to gratify any desire of my own."

"Believing sincerely that I must have enemies between you and myself, who are trying to impair my usefulness, I respectfully ask to be relieved from further duty in the department."

After another rebuke from Halleck, of exactly the same tenor, Grant replied, on the 9th: "You had a better chance of knowing my strength, while my command was surrounding Fort Donelson, than I had. Troops were reporting daily by your order, and were immediately assigned to brigades. There were no orders received from you till the 28th of February, to make out returns; and I made every effort to get them in as early as possible. I renew my application to be relieved from duty." On the 11th, Grant wrote again to Halleck: "There is such a disposition to find fault with me, that I again ask to be relieved from further duty, until I can be placed right in the estimation of those higher in authority." Other censures were administered for alleged marauding allowed by Grant, in answer to which he said: "I refer you to my orders to suppress marauding, as the only reply necessary." He had arrested officers for violation of these orders, and sent them to St. Louis to report to Halleck, more than a week previous.

On the 13th, Halleck replied: "You cannot be relieved from your command. There is no good reason for it. I am certain that all which the authorities at Washington ask, is that you enforce discipline, and punish the disorderly. . . . Instead of relieving you, I wish you, as soon as your new army is in the field, to assume the immediate command, and lead it on to new victories." Grant replied on the next day: "After your letter, enclosing copy of an anonymous letter, upon which severe censure was based, I felt as though it would be impossible for me to serve longer without a court of inquiry. Your telegram of yesterday, however, places such a different phase upon my position, that I will again assume command, and give every effort to the success of our cause. Under the worst circumstances, I would do the same."

A few days later, Halleck transmitted to Grant copies of the following correspondence:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, March 10, 1862.

Major-General W. H. Halleck, U. S. A., Commanding Department of the Mississippi, St. Louis:

It has been reported that soon after the battle of Fort Donelson, Brigadier-General Grant left his command without leave. By direction of the President, the Secretary of War directs you to ascertain, and report, whether General Grant left his command at any time without proper authority, and if so, for how long; whether he has made to you proper reports and returns of his forces; whether he has committed any acts which were unauthorized, or not in accordance with military subordination or propriety, and if so, what.

L. THOMAS, Adjutant-General.
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
St. Louis, March 15, 1862.

Brigadier-General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington:

In accordance with your instructions of the 10th inst., I report that General Grant and several officers of high rank in his command, immediately after the battle of Fort Donelson, went to Nashville, without my authority or knowledge. I am satisfied, however, from investigation, that General Grant did this from good intentions, and from a desire to subserve the public interests. Not being advised of General Buell's movements, and learning that General Buell had ordered Smith's division of his (Grant's) command to Nashville, he deemed it his duty to go there in person. During the absence of General Grant, and a part of his general officers, numerous irregularities are said to have occurred at Fort Donelson. These were in violation of the orders issued by General Grant before leaving, and probably, under the circumstances, were unavoidable. General Grant has made the proper explanations, and has been directed to resume his command in the field; as he acted from a praiseworthy although mistaken zeal for the public service in going to Nashville, and leaving his command, I respectfully recommend that no further notice be taken of it. There never has been any want of military subordination on the part of General Grant, and his failure to make returns of his forces has been explained as resulting partly from the failure of colonels of regiments to report to him on

their arrival, and partly from an interruption of telegraphic communication. All these irregularities have now been remedied.

H. W. HALLECK, Major-General.

General Halleck, however, neglected to furnish General Grant with a copy of the telegram of March 3d to Washington, and Grant replied to Halleck, on the 24th of March: "I most fully appreciate your justness, General, in the part you have taken, and you may rely upon me to the utmost of my capacity for carrying out all your orders." In the same letter he remarked: "I do not feel that I have neglected a single duty;" and on the 31st of the month, Halleck informed him: "General McClellan directed me to place General Smith in command of the expedition, until you were ordered to join it."

It will be remembered that the limits of Grant's command had never been defined, and it was thus for overstepping the unknown boundaries of his district, while in the legitimate discharge of his duties, that on Halleck's report, the general-in-chief advised that officer to place Grant in arrest. Smith took command of the expedition, and while the captor of Donelson remained in disgrace at Fort Henry, the troops were pushed forward as far as Eastport on the Tennessee. Grant, however, made every effort to secure the success of the expedition, and on turning over the command to Smith, congratulated him on his "richly deserved promotion." "No one," he said, "can feel more pleasure than myself." On the 9th of March, he wrote: "Anything you may require, send back transports for, and if within my power you shall have it." On the 11th, referring to re-enforcements that were daily expected: "General Halleck telegraphs me . . . when they arrive, I may take the general direction. I think it exceedingly doubtful whether I shall accept; certainly not until the object of the expedition is accomplished." Smith replied: "I wrote you yesterday, to say how glad I was to find, from your letter of the 11th, that you were to resume your old command, from which you were so unceremoniously, and, as I think, so unjustly stricken down."

Halleck, meanwhile, continued his cautions to Grant. On the 13th, he telegraphed: "Don't bring on any general engagement at Paris. If the enemy appear in force, our troops must fall back." And on the 16th: "As the enemy is evidently in strong force, my instructions not to advance, so as to bring on a general engagement, must be strictly obeyed. General Smith must hold his position without exposing himself by detachments, till we can strongly re-enforce him." The operations, however, were without result, and Smith returned to Pittsburg Landing, on the western bank of the Tennessee. It had been expected, that after cutting the railroad near Eastport or Corinth, he would establish himself at Savanna, a point about nine miles lower down than Pittsburg Landing, and on the opposite side of the river; he, however, selected the spot where the battle of Shiloh afterward occurred.

On the 13th of March, Grant was relieved from his disgrace; and on the 17th, he removed his headquarters to Savanna, and wrote to Sherman from that place: "I have just arrived, and although sick for the last two weeks, begin to feel better at the thought of being again with the troops."

DEFENCE OF GENERAL CUSTER.

BREVET Major-General George A. Custer, who was recently tried by a General Court-martial at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and sentenced to be suspended from command for a year, has written a long letter defending himself from the charges preferred against him. This letter was published in the Sandusky (Ohio) Register, from which we make the following extract:

In reply to the statement that on one occasion General Custer sent back an officer with instructions to shoot some "tired men" who had fallen behind in a long march, claiming that they intended to desert, he says that at the time probably alluded to, his command after resting one day and two nights on the Platte River, set out at five o'clock in the morning, and in six hours made fifteen miles, being two and a half miles per hour, or one mile less than the average march per hour of cavalry when moving with the utmost deliberation, and the entire command was then halted for rest and refreshments, and the horses were unsaddled and grazed. This continued until four o'clock in the afternoon, and it was determined to march ten miles further to a good camp and abundance of water, it being impossible to find the necessary amount of the latter at a less distance. The command originally numbered 300 men; of these, 34 had deserted the previous night, and General Custer had been informed, both by officers and reliable enlisted men, of a scheme by which these desertions were to be followed by that of a large proportion of the men remaining. To frustrate this, as well as for the reasons above given, he determined to get further from the settlements, as they were then surrounded by hostile Indians, and the soldiers might be deterred from deserting by the increased danger. When about to start he was told by an officer that thirteen men were then hastening toward the Platte, and that no doubt they were deserting. All were armed, and, as was afterward learned, each man, by robbing comrades in camp, had supplied himself with double the usual allowance of ammunition. Pursuit was ordered, and to the first officer who reported mounted, instructions were given to pursue the deserters, then passed beyond view, and bring them back at all hazards, the order given being so worded that the officers who were to execute it were authorized to proceed to any extremity, even to the taking of life, if necessary to the proper discharge of their duty. All the officers present, whose horses were saddled, including the second in command, volunteered to assist in executing the order. This was testified to before the court, and not controverted. When asked by a member of the court what reasons induced them to volunteer, they said that the emergency was great, the necessity for prompt action strong, and that the desert-

ers would otherwise have escaped. After a pursuit of from three to five miles, those of the deserters who were on foot were overtaken. One of them raised his carbine to fire upon the senior officer, and the pursuing party thereupon fired, wounding three men, one of them severely. The remaining three surrendered and the six men were taken back to camp. The seven who were mounted had selected the best horses in the command, and have never been heard of. No further attempt at desertion was made during the time General Custer remained in command.

General Custer justified himself in these stringent and unusual measures by the orders of General Hancock, who at the time commanded the Department. Forty men had previously deserted from General Custer's regiment, or a portion of it commanded by Colonel Sheridan, a brother of the General, and General Hancock telegraphed an order to Colonel Sheridan, and to almost every subordinate commander in his department, directing them to be on the alert for this party, and ordering that the entire party should be "killed or captured," adding that it would have a decidedly good effect upon the Army if his order could be carried out. General Custer also gives the following:

"Of the customs of war there are many instances to sustain my action. In my defence I referred to but one—the order signed by no less distinguished an officer than Major-General Philip H. Sheridan. You doubtless remember the occasion which produced the order; it was in the Winter of 1864, while the cavalry division which I had the honor to command, and of which you were a prominent officer, was in Winter quarters near Winchester, Virginia. Two men of the Third New Jersey Cavalry were arrested as deserters about one mile beyond our line of pickets by one of General Sheridan's staff officers. Without any trial other than a personal examination of the facts, General Sheridan, with his own hand, signed an order (which order I still retain), directing me, as division commander, to cause the two men referred to to be shot to death by musketry, in the presence of the brigade to which they belonged—the same to which your regiment was attached. This order I executed to the letter, with this exception only, that I caused the execution—which was intended, and properly, too, as an example—to be witnessed by the entire division instead of but by one brigade."

He then details the aggravated circumstances under which these men attempted to desert from his command. The command was actively engaged in a hostile country, surrounded by overwhelming numbers of unfriendly Indians; already reduced by numerous desertions; it had before it a march of hundreds of miles; it was intrusted with thousands of dollars worth of Government property to defend and conduct this safely through the hostile country before it, required the combined strength, watchfulness and courage of the entire force. Some well-informed officers even doubted the ability of the full force to make the march successfully; with greatly diminished numbers the opinion was unanimous that the proposed march, which had been ordered by Lieutenant-General Sherman, would be impracticable and too hazardous. Under these circumstances General Custer felt that nothing but the most summary measures would prevent his command from going to pieces. All less severe measures had failed, but by these desertions was effectually checked. General Custer said:

"As I stated in my defence, instead of being arraigned before a Court-martial for my acts I believed, and still believe, I should have received the commendation of my superior officers. I further stated, what I here reiterate with more confidence than ever, that had I failed to adopt the stringent measures I did, for the preservation and maintenance of discipline in my command, and the scheme for the desertion of a large portion of my command had been carried out, I should have deserved to be, and should have been arraigned before a Court-martial on my return for incompetency and neglect of duty. As to the existence of this plot or scheme for desertion, the most reliable officers and enlisted men of the command testified before the court that from 'one-fourth' to a large proportion of the command would have deserted the following night, had it not been for my action preventing it."

THE FUNERAL OF GENERAL GRIFFIN.

THE remains of the late Brevet Major-General Charles Griffin, U. S. Army, and those of his son, both of whom died, in Galveston, Texas, of the yellow fever, in last September, arrived in Washington for final interment on Saturday December 28th. At the time of the General's death the mortality in Galveston was so great that it was not deemed advisable to give him a military funeral, which ceremony was reserved until the present time. The metallic coffin, containing the body of the deceased, was received at the railroad depot by a detachment of the Twelfth Infantry and, after being draped with the national colors, laid in state until noon when the funeral procession was formed.

The military escort consisted of detachments of the Twelfth, Twenty-ninth and Forty-fourth Infantry, and the Fifth Cavalry, the whole being under the command of Brevet Colonel George P. Buell, Lieutenant Colonel Twenty-ninth Infantry. Major-Generals Augur, Emory, Hunter, Hardie, Rawlins, Ricketts, Humphreys and Carr acted as pall bearers, the guard of honor being composed of twenty sergeants. The funeral was attended by General Grant, Lieutenant-General Sherman and a large number of the friends and family of the deceased. The funeral services were performed by the Rev. Dr. Hall and L. Lewis of the Episcopal Church, the remains of the deceased being interred in the vault of the Carroll family in Oak Hill Cemetery, Georgetown.

The remains of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, surgeon-in-chief on the staff of General Griffin, who also fell a victim to the yellow fever, were interred in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, on the 23rd ult. As Dr. Taylor's body had been buried with full honors in Texas, at the request of his friends, all military ceremony was omitted at his re-interment.

SEVENTH U. S. INFANTRY.

THE following is a roster of the officers of the Seventh U. S. Infantry.

COLONEL—John T. Sprague, St. Augustine, Fla., commanding regiment, and District of Florida, and assistant commissioner Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, State of Florida.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL—Franklin F. Flint, Tallahassee, Fla., commanding post of Tallahassee.

MAJORS—Henry M. Black, brevet colonel, West Point, N. Y., commanding U. S. Corps of Cadets; Matthew M. Blunt, brevet colonel, St. Augustine, Fla., commanding post of St. Augustine.

CAPTAINS—David P. Hancock, brevet lieutenant-colonel, Company A, St. Louis, Mo., on general recruiting service; James P. Martin, brevet lieutenant-colonel, Company B, Fort Clinch, Fla., commanding company and post; George S. Hollister, Company G, Tallahassee, Fla., commanding company; Samuel A. Russel, brevet major, Company K, Tallahassee, Fla., commanding company; Charles C. Rawn, Company I, Jacksonville, Fla., commanding company and post; Alonzo A. Cole, brevet major, Company D, St. Augustine, Fla., commanding company; Edwin R. Ames, Company C, Gainesville, Fla., commanding company and post; Edward C. Woodruff, brevet major, Company H, St. Augustine, Fla., acting assistant inspector-general District of Florida; Richard Comba, brevet major, Company E, Fort Brooke, Fla., commanding company and post; Frederick E. Grossmann, Company F, Lake City, Fla., commanding company and post.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS—James M. J. Sanno, staff, St. Augustine, regimental and post adjutant, inspector Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, District of Florida; Constant Williams, Company D, Bedloe's Island, N. Y. Harbor, acting assistant quartermaster, and acting commissary subsistence of post; William Logan, staff, St. Augustine, regimental and post quartermaster, and acting commissary subsistence chief quartermaster, District of Florida; Charles A. Coolidge, Company A, St. Augustine, commanding company; George N. Bonford, brevet major, Company F, Tallahassee, temporarily attached to Company K; Henry W. Wessels, Jr., Company E, Fort Brooke, acting assistant quartermaster, and acting assistant commissary of subsistence of post; William W. Armstrong, Company C, Gainesville, post adjutant; Richard P. Strong, Company I, Portland, Oregon, acting assistant adjutant-general Department of Columbia; Charles F. Larrabee, brevet captain, Company K, Jacksonville, acting assistant adjutant-general District of Florida; William T. Dodge, Company G, Fort Clinch, adjutant and acting assistant quartermaster of post; John B. Johnson, Company B, Fort Clinch, with company; Joel H. Lyman, Company H, Gainesville, commanding company.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS—Allan H. Jackson, Company K, Jacksonville, assistant adjutant-general Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, District of Florida; William H. Nelson, Company G, Tallahassee, acting assistant quartermaster and acting assistant commissary of subsistence of post; Mattson C. Sanbourne, brevet captain, Company B, Fernandina, Fla., with company; Daniel Robinson, Company C, Gainesville, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence of post; Richard W. Cummings, Company F, Lake City, with company; George H. Wright, Company A, St. Augustine, with company; William L. English, Company D, Jacksonville, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence of post; F. M. H. Kendrick, never joined regiment.

AN officer of Northern Germany, who visited the camp at Chalons, publishes in the North German Gazette the following observations on the Chassepot:

It is now idle to ask if this weapon is superior to the Prussian gun; the question at present is—to what extent that superiority could be injurious to us in case of a war with France. That depends on the precision with which the arm shall be used; but the natural vivacity of the French, and their deficiency in the patience which the Germans possess will be a great obstacle to the acquisition of that perfection. During my stay in the camp I observed that the troops who, with the exception of the Chasseurs, were all armed with the new musket, showed in its use a want of certainty, which is, beside, easily understood. However, it would be madness to attempt to conceal the superiority of this firearm. In facility of loading the Chassepot is superior to any other system at present known. The number of rounds which can be fired in a minute is—on the Dreyse system, 5; Schneider and Joslyn, 6; Milbank, Remington, Rieker, and Chabot, 7; and for the Chassepot, 8. The other qualities of this musket are—its weight is not great (84 pounds the small bore), and, what is more important, the flight of the projectile forms a low trajectory. The latter quality, conjointly with the facility of loading, is especially important in firing by command and at will; in one word, in every case where the mass of balls is the essential, and where the musket which fires most is the best, the Chassepot is lighter, and its work is much more elegant than that of the needle gun; that is why it is in complete accord with the views of the French soldiers; but it affords less resistance than others to long use in rainy weather.

PURSUANT to orders from Headquarters Second Military District, the following changes of stations of companies of the Fortieth U. S. Infantry, have been made, viz.: Company A from Smithville, N. C., to Goldsboro, N. C.; Company B from Plymouth, N. C., to Fort Macon, N. C.; Company C from Orangeburg, S. C., to Goldsboro, N. C.; Company K from Hilton Head, S. C., to Goldsboro, N. C. Regimental headquarters with staff and band, remove from Raleigh, N. C., to Goldsboro, N. C. The garrison of the latter post now consists of Companies A, C, E, G, H, and K, Fortieth Infantry, Colonel and Brevet Major-General N. A. Miles commanding; L.

THE ST. THOMAS PURCHASE.

THE acquisition by the United States of the West India Islands of St. Thomas and St. John is an event of sufficient gravity to warrant an examination into the motives of the nation which has acquired a foothold in that region, and of the probable future results on the scattered communities of those seas belonging to different European powers. We believe when the late disturbances occurred in Jamaica, and the press of this country was filled with violent denunciations of the negroes, President Johnson took advantage of the circumstance to sound the late Sir F. Bruce as to the probability of our ceding to the United States that magnificent, but up to that time, ill-governed island. The exceedingly cold reception with which his overtures were met, induced the President, or rather Mr. Seward, for that astute old man is at the bottom of the business, to apply to Denmark, where he has been more successful.* The two islands purchased are by no means the best of the Danish possessions—the Island of Santa Cruz, still left to Denmark, being very much larger and more fertile than either of the two little islets which have been ceded. The object of the United States was clearly not to obtain territory, of which it has enough and to spare. We are, therefore, inclined to think that, even if the rumored offer by Spain, of Cuba and Porto Rico, were true, the Government would not be tempted to buy, except upon very advantageous terms. The object of the recent purchase is very frankly pointed out by President Johnson in his message. He reminds his countrymen that in the war of independence we were able to gail the struggling colonists from our West India stations; that the same result happened in 1812; and that in the late civil war the West Indies formed the rendezvous of blockade runners, while the United States steam vessels, which were watching them, could only coal up in their own distant harbors. "With the possession of a good and convenient port and harbor in the West Indies," argues Mr. Johnson, "neither we nor any other American nation need longer apprehend injury or offence from any transatlantic enemy."

The object of the United States, therefore, has been to acquire war ports as a protection against European enemies, and in St. Thomas and St. John they have certainly succeeded in gaining what they desired. This move on the part of the Americans has unquestionably altered all the relations between the countries in the event of a war, and is of fifty times more importance to England than all the manoeuvres which have taken place about Turkey for the last hundred years. In the event of a great convulsion in our own country, occasioned by the persistent machinations of the American Fenians, St. Thomas and St. John may become convenient shelters from which to annoy the commerce of England. Certainly in a war with the United States, should that calamity ever occur, the possession of these two islands would entirely alter the balance of power which has hitherto subsisted between this country and America. We do not point out these results in any spirit of hostility to the United States, but rather to show the blindness and stupidity of the traditional policy of the Foreign Office. We are in the act of spending millions under some delusion that in doing so we are keeping up our prestige in the East Indies, while, without a protest, without a murmur, without an exchange of notes, so far as we are at present informed, our greatest naval rival acquires two islands in the West Indies, avowedly as war ports against possible transatlantic enemies.

The presence of the Americans in these latitudes will be a disturbing cause to the European powers in peace as well as in war. Spain, especially, may proceed at once to set her house in order. Porto Rico, where slavery still reigns with all its hateful features, is the near neighbor of St. John. Imagine the state of mind of the Spanish planters, with a community of negroes in the possession of manhood suffrage in the next island! Nor can we escape the difficulties which the advent of this new neighbor will certainly cause in the West Indies. Already the United States have begun to dominate the minds of the negroes. They have not been inattentive observers of what has been passing in the great country which so lately was the chief stay of slavery. They will not watch with less jealousy the possession of the franchise by their lately emancipated brethren when the American flag floats over two of the islands in their midst. In addition to what may be called the passive propagandism of American views, and active and most powerful influence will be exerted by the superior commercial activity of the Americans. Although the obtaining of war-ports has been the leading idea of the late acquisition, the intense business activity of the Americans will doubtless soon convert the new colony into a commercial centre, where they will amass all the rich produce of the neighboring islands before launching it upon the markets of the world. What Port Royal once was St. Thomas will become in the hands of our competitors across the Atlantic.—*London Morning Star*.

BREVET Major-General Canby has issued the following order:

At the election held in the State of South Carolina, on the 19th and 20th days of November, 1867, pursuant to General Orders No. 99, from Headquarters Second Military District, dated October 16, 1867, a majority of the registered voters of the said State having voted on the question of holding a convention, and a majority of the votes cast being in favor of holding such convention, the delegates elected thereto are hereby notified, in conformity with the provisions of the fourth section of the act of Congress of March 23, 1867, to assemble in convention in the city of Charleston, South Carolina, at noon, on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, 1868, for the purpose of framing a constitution and civil government according to the provisions of the aforesaid act of the 23d day of March, 1867, to which it is supplementary.

BREVET Colonel William M. Wherry, U. S. A., captain Thirty-first U. S. Infantry, is announced as aide-de-camp on the staff of Brevet Major-General Schofield, commanding First Military District.

THE MOVEMENTS OF THE FRANKLIN.

A CORRESPONDENT of a New York paper writes from Carthage, Spain, under date of the 7th inst., describing the cruise of the *Franklin*. He says:

The *Franklin* sailed out of the Tagus on the morning of the 20th ult., about one hour after the English iron-clad fleet, commanded by Rear-Admiral Warden, had left its anchorage in the harbor for a practice cruise along the coast. She came up with them a short distance outside the bar, just as they were preparing to manoeuvre in line. The United States flagship was immediately hove to, to witness the movements of this great fleet, which being perceived by Admiral Warden, he arranged his vessels in two parallel lines and prepared to pass our ship on either side as in review. The manoeuvre was a very handsome one, and the appearance of the nine immense vessels of that powerful squadron, moving slowly and majestically, under sails alone, over an almost unruffled sea, will long be stored away in the archives of memory as a scene of thrilling splendor.

The *Franklin*, as usual, was very speedily prepared for such a sudden emergency, and as the *Minotaur*, the flagship of Admiral Warden, passed abreast, her rigging was manned, the jolly tars sent three deafening cheers across the waters, and immediately afterward the sweet strains of England's national anthem floated away from our band, stationed in full force on the elevated poop. This graceful compliment was immediately responded to by the *Minotaur*, the rigging of her five masts being covered with sailors, and her band giving us the full benefit of our own soul-stirring and enlivening melodies. A signal from the English flagship made this action general in the fleet, the same courtesies being exchanged as each vessel successively passed the *Franklin*, and it was only when the last of their line had passed ahead that our ship was turned upon her course, and went on her way rejoicing toward the blue Mediterranean.

On the day following we were favored with a rather spirited breeze, poetically styled a "Levanter," which, though not so uproarious as the one which tossed us about so unceremoniously in the German Ocean, was still sufficiently troublesome to make the pirouette the popular movement on deck. This gale continued for three days; but, notwithstanding it was "dead ahead," we managed to pass through the Straits of Gibraltar on the 24th ult., and to anchor the same evening in the bay below the great fortress.

On the day after our arrival Admiral Farragut was visited by Mr. Sprague, United States Consul, and by several staff officers of Sir Richard Airey, the Governor of Gibraltar, the latter being deputed by their commander to tender the hospitalities of the port to their "distinguished visitor;" and on the following morning visits of a most agreeable and friendly nature were exchanged between the representatives of the respective governments and many of the principal officers of the garrison. Nothing could possibly exceed the attentions of the military and naval authorities stationed at this celebrated fortress to Admiral Farragut and his officers. All seemed anxious to restore the harmony and good feeling which existed between the two governments prior to the Southern rebellion. He was accompanied on a tour of inspection of this famous stronghold by a number of prominent officers stationed here several of whom served with distinction in the Crimean war, and every facility was extended by them for a full and critical examination of the numerous caverns and galleries which are cut in the solid rock and thus form a sheltered communication with different parts of the garrison. He was also conducted to the various batteries studded about the hill, and shown every point of this impregnable citadel, which bore a prominent part in the memorable siege of 1782 by the combined forces of France and Spain.

On the evening of the 29th ult. the Admiral and his staff were very handsomely entertained by the officers of the Royal Artillery regiment. The Admiral was also entertained by Mr. Sprague, United States Consul at Gibraltar, and by Sir Richard Airey, Governor of the port, and was compelled to decline an invitation to dine with the officers of the Fifteenth regiment in consequence of a prior engagement.

During his sojourn at Gibraltar, accompanied by a member of officers, Admiral Farragut made a short excursion to the ancient and dilapidated town of Tangier, a seaport of Morocco, Africa.

On the morning of the 3d instant the *Franklin* proceeded again to sea, and on the evening of the following day was hove to off the harbor of Carthage, Spain.

Fort Totten, D. T., is garrisoned by three companies of the Thirty-first Infantry. This fort is a three-company post, stockaded, and has new and comfortable quarters for officers and men. The following is a list of officers stationed at the post, viz.: Captain S. A. Wainright, Company D, Thirty-first Infantry, commanding company and post; Captain J. H. Platt, Company K, Thirty-first Infantry, commanding company; Captain George W. Hill, Company A, Thirty-first Infantry, commanding company; First Lieutenant P. M. Thorne, Company E, Thirty-first Infantry, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary-general; First Lieutenant W. E. Hoffman, Company K, Thirty-first Infantry, with company; Second Lieutenant Ben. C. Lockwood, Company K, Thirty-first Infantry, with company; Second Lieutenant O. M. Smith, Company D, Thirty-first Infantry, post adjutant; Dr. G. C. Douglas, acting assistant surgeon U. S. Army, post surgeon. Fort Totten is 450 miles from St. Paul, Minn., and 140 from Fort Stevenson, D. T. (Missouri River). Mails come from Washington in twelve days, and the most accessible route being via St. Paul.

First Lieutenant J. H. Purcell, First U. S. Infantry, has been detached from his regiment and ordered to report to Captain Charles Barnard, assistant quartermaster, for duty in charge of cemetery operations at Brashear, Louisiana.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

WE have the following from the *Shawmut*, under date of Aspinwall, December 13th: The U. S. steamer *Shawmut* arrived at this port on the 9th instant. On the 7th while on her way to Port au Prince, in lat. 11 deg. 55 min. and long. 75 deg. 8 min., the foremast went by the board, and carried with it three men, all of whom were lost. The poor fellows never rose to the surface, and it is almost certain that two of them were killed before reaching the water. The names of the men were John Lambert, seaman; Charles Ryan, seaman; Albert H. Cook, landsman. The forward cutter on the port side was made a complete wreck and was cut away with the rigging. After the wreck cleared the vessel, nothing was seen of it except the butt of the mast, the weight of the wire rigging, sinking the spars and sails. In two hours and a half from the time the mast went, the wreck was cleared away, jury-mast rigged, and sail set. At the time of the occurrence (4 P. M.), the propeller was uncoupled and the vessel making about seven knots. The officers and men on this trying occasion behaved admirably. The following is a list of the *Shawmut's* officers: Commander E. E. Stone, commanding; A. V. Lieutenant D. C. Kells, executive officer; W. J. Simon, passed assistant surgeon; J. B. Farrand, acting first assistant engineer; G. C. Schulze, W. L. Howarth, G. W. D. Patterson, acting masters; Geo. F. Bemis, assistant paymaster; Samuel Appold, Thomas V. McIntosh, acting second assistant engineers; John Slack, Thomas Lee, acting third assistant engineers; William H. Jackson, captain's clerk; George T. Carey, Jas. S. Smith, mates.

GENERAL ZEILIN, commandant of the marine corps, has adopted the retrenchment spirit that rules the hour, and by a recent order abolished the crying evil known as "executive officer," which has existed for several years in his corps. Heretofore, at each post, the next in rank to the commanding officers, usually a captain, has been dubbed "executive officer of the post," and excused from all duty, except a presence of about two hours each morning at the barracks. In one case, at a small station, where a captain was assigned to this arduous duty, the rate of pay for his service to the United States was computed and found to be about four dollars per hour for every hour employed. This abuse no longer exists.

NORFOLK NAVY-YARD.—The *Penobscot* arrived Saturday, the 21st instant, from Washington, and was followed by the *Saco*, *Bibb*, and *Gettysburg*. On the way down the latter vessel got ashore and the *Bibb* was nearly cut through by the ice. The *Saco* lost some copper and will go into dry dock for repairs. The *De Soto* and *Penobscot* have both been on the dock and will probably return to the West Indies.

COMMANDER J. Blakely Creighton, commanding U. S. steamer *Onida*, in a dispatch to the Navy Department, dated Singapore, November 5th, reports his arrival at that port on the 3d, having left Simon's Bay on the 24th September, arriving off Java Head, October 30th, anchoring at Anjea on the same night, and in the morning proceeding up through Banca straits, and then through Rhio straits to Singapore. He states that the passage from Cape of Good Hope was of a boisterous character, and that he encountered several westerly gales of wind, and on the 12th of October experienced a severe cyclone, which lasted forty-eight hours, the greater part of which time (after steaming forty miles to clear the centre, which was judged to be about one hundred miles distant) the ship was lying to under steam and storm sails, heading to the northward and eastward, for the purpose of gaining the left hand semicircle of the storm; by this course the wind veered to the westward, and the storm rapidly passed them, travelling on the track of E. S. E. He states that by the careful consideration of "Paddington's Horn Book," he was enabled to escape the loss of only the fore-storm staysail and maintopsail; the ship behaved remarkably well, the sea being very high and irregular, which caused the shipping a great deal of water. He was to remain at Singapore until about the 12th November, when he was to sail, taking the Palawan passage to avoid the typhoons, touching at Manila for coal. The officers and crew were all in good health.

THE following is an extract from a letter written on board the *Minnesota*, and dated Funchal, Madeira, November 23, 1867:

Our noble vessel left New York the latter part of July, with forty-six midshipmen of the class that graduated in June last. Our mission was to visit the principal naval depots in Europe, and then to distribute a portion of our future admirals among the different vessels of the European squadron, and the balance are to be taken to Aspinwall, thence to Panama, to be distributed in the Pacific squadrons. We arrived at this beautiful island, this garden spot of the Atlantic, to-day, on our way to the West Indies. Our delightful cruise will soon be ended; the cream of it has gone already. A few days more and we will be in Aspinwall, rusticated on India-rubber beef and bananas.

Our Government has done a wise thing in sending these young gentlemen around to inspect the formidable naval depots at Plymouth, Cherbourg, Brest and Toulon, preparatory to assigning them to duty. It is to be regretted that Congress did not send a committee along at the same time to make a similar inspection. I am sure this committee, after having inspected the three formidable depots of France, would have gone home and voted for an appropriation of millions of dollars at once for the purpose of building dry docks alone. Should we get into a foreign war and have our vessels battered up we have only four dry docks to repair them in. France has almost twenty times four. A foreign war will be very different from the rebellion; then our four dry docks answered so so. When we sail out on the broad Atlantic to fight England and France, we will have to

fight huge fleets of iron-clads as formidable as our own rams, "turtles," torpedo-boats, etc. In the general melee, "in giving and taking," we must expect to have our vessels damaged. The question is, where are they to be repaired? In four dry docks—a fleet of vessels to be repaired in four dry docks?

In accordance with the plan of retrenchment adopted by the Government, orders have been received at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, to stop work upon the vessels under construction. These orders were received about two weeks ago, since which time there has been 600 or 700 hands discharged, and a further reduction of about 100 is contemplated. The vessels upon which work was stopped are the steam sloops *Omaha*, *Pushmataha*, *Brooklyn*, *Juniata*, and *Antietam*, and the double-turreted iron-clad *Shackamaxon*.

On Tuesday, December 31st, Hon. B. F. Butler asked leave, in the District Court for the District of Columbia, to file a libel of information on the part of Admiral Farragut and the officers and men of the Western Gulf Squadron of April, 1862, to recover a bounty of \$200 for each man, under the statute, for the destruction of the force of the Confederate vessels in front of Fort St. Philips and Fort Jackson, on the 23d day of April, 1862. He said that the superior force of the enemy's fleet might be shown from the records of the late Confederate government, in regard to the fall of New Orleans, which was fully investigated by the Courts of Justice there, on the trial of General Lovell. The libel prayed for a monition to issue to all parties to show cause, etc. The court directed the monition to issue, and made it returnable on the first Monday of February, 1868, after the usual publication of twenty days.

The *Tuscarora* went out of commission at the Mare Island Navy-yard on the 14th ult. Surgeon A. Hudson and First Lieutenant A. B. Young, of the marines of this vessel, arrived in New York on the 28th of December, on the *Henry Chauncey*. The revenue cutter *Lincoln*, was in the harbor as the *Chauncey* left, and fired a salute for Captain Howard, of the revenue service, who had come East in the above steamer. The *Ossipee* had arrived from Sitka and gone to the Navy-yard for repairs. The *Pensacola* was expected to arrive from the coast of Mexico.

THE Light-house board has issued the following notices to mariners:

United States of America—Chesapeake Bay.—Light-house at Deep-Water Shoals, James River, Va.—Official information is hereby given that a screw-pile light-house has been erected at Deep-Water Shoals in the James River, Va., to take the place of the one destroyed by ice last winter. The light will be exhibited for the first time on the evening of the 15th January, 1868, when the light-vessel now marking the station will be withdrawn. The illuminating apparatus is a Fresnel lens of the sixth order, the focal plane being thirty-five feet above ordinary tides, and the light can be seen in clear weather a distance of nine miles.

THE GETTYSBURG CEMETERY.

MR. DAVID WILLS, the "President of the Soldiers' National Cemetery," has written a letter to the editor of the *Philadelphia Press*, containing the following facts:

The dead buried in the cemetery number 3,564, of which number 979 are "unknown" Union soldiers. The headstones are all completed, and marked with the name and number of the regiment and company of those bodies which were identified. The landscape decorations are finished, as far as can be done until the monument is erected. The grounds are permanently and most durably enclosed. A porter's lodge is built, which will require a small addition to it yet to meet the wants of the occupant and the comforts of visitors. This is in process of construction, and will be completed early in the Spring. The foundation of the monument has been laid for more than a year, and the work on the monument has been in progress since May, 1866. The granite work for the base and shaft of the monument is being done at the quarries at Westerley, Rhode Island. It will be ready for shipment on the opening of navigation next Spring. The statues, of which there are five of colossal size, are being prepared in Italy, under the supervision and subject to the acceptance and approval of Mr. Randolph Rogers, the celebrated American sculptor. The very best workmen that Italy can afford are engaged in doing the cutting of the statuary. They are the same men who were intrusted with the colossal statue of Columbus at Genoa, and the famous equestrian statue of Frederick the Great at Berlin.

Great difficulty has been experienced in procuring sound blocks of marble of the size and quality required for the statues. The block for the statue which crowns the monument, and the blocks for two of the lower statues have been secured, and these pieces will be finished and ready for shipment from Rome by the last of next April or first of May. But in regard to the other two, all depend on the success in getting the marble whether they can be done by that time. Inferior qualities of marble can be readily obtained, but a uniform color, and of the best quality, have been stipulated for, and it requires much search and labor before such can be had. The work was to be completed by the first of next July, but this unavoidable delay may require a postponement of the contemplated dedication of the monument on the next anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg.

Thirty thousand dollars have already been paid on the contract for the monument, in instalments, as the work progressed, for the completion of which (according to the specifications) ample security has been given. The money required to complete the monument according to contract, and finish all that may yet be required in the cemetery, has been appropriated by the States, and is in the treasury of the association, invested in United States securities.

A colossal statue of Major-General John F. Reynolds will be placed in the cemetery next Summer by the soldiers of the First Army Corps. It will be a bronze statue, standing figure, about eight feet high, on a granite pedestal of the same height. It is designed to be a work of the highest style of art, and it will reflect great credit

on the devotion and attachment of the members of the First Corps to their brave leader.

When this cemetery is completed, and time has added its share toward the landscape decorations, it will be a beautiful spot—one well fitted in all respects, for the last resting place of the soldier of the Republic who has sealed his devotion to his country by his blood, and given up his life on these fields that "this Government of the people, by the people, and for the people, should not perish from the earth." Time will only increase its interest as future ages and generations give due meed to the decisive results of this great soldiers' battle.

FORT D. A. RUSSELL, D. T.

WE make the following extract from a private letter, dated Fort D. A. Russell, Dakota Territory, December 23, 1867.

Eight companies of my regiment are now at this fort; one at North Platte; one at old Fort Kearny.

Since my return, November 23d, my company have been hard at work, assisting in building quarters for themselves, in fact, every man at the post has been so employed. The officers are still in tents and will scarcely get into their quarters before the month of February, a prospect not at all agreeable, as they so lived all last winter, and are not at all anxious to repeat the experiment. The building was not commenced until late in the season, and instead of giving it out by contract, is being built by the quartermaster's department. Every man employed is interested in having the job last all winter, and I think from present appearances they will succeed in their intention. The fort when finished will be as pleasant as one can be made, located on these plains. The company quarters, twelve in number, occupy two sides of the parade ground and are placed in echelon. The officers' quarters to the same number, occupy the other two sides. Cheyenne City, of which you have heard so much through the papers, is about two and a half miles southeast of the fort, and contains about 400 buildings, some of them quite good.

When you consider that on the 25th of July there was not a stick of timber on the ground, it is indeed wonderful.

ADVICES from Panama state that the *Newbern* arrived at Aspinwall on the 18th ult. with 350 men for the Pacific squadron. The screw steamer *Mohican* was to sail for the North Pacific about January 1st, but would await the arrival at Aspinwall of the steamer *Minnesota*, with the class of midshipmen for Pacific service. The *Mohican*, on his voyage to Panama, picked up the schooner *Petrel*, from San Francisco, with treasure seekers, bound to Cocos Island, in distress, and towed her to Panama. The *Waterloo* arrived at Panama on the 15th. The *Don* has arrived at Havana from Key West. The *Monongahela* remains high and dry on the coral reefs at St. Croix.

SECRETARY McCulloch has had prepared a statement showing the amount of money furnished by the several States for the equipment of troops, etc., during the war. From this statement it will appear that \$40,000,000 were advanced by the States, that claims for about \$30,000,000 have been adjusted, and that of the remaining \$10,000,000 claimed about seventy per cent. will be allowed by the United States.

FIRST Lieutenant Henry L. Stone, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, has been relieved from recruiting service, and ordered to close his station at Providence, Rhode Island, and report in person to the commanding officer of his regiment, at Brownsville, Texas, taking with him such recruits as he may have made, not yet forwarded.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A FEW MISTAKES CORRECTED.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In a recent Washington paper there appeared an article upon the bill now before Congress, to create a Board of Survey for the Navy. It is desired to correct some of the statements made in relation to the Board of Survey, and I will thank you for a small space in your columns, in which to point out to your numerous readers wherein the statement is incorrect.

It is stated by Mr. Isherwood: "just as the late rebellion has convinced the civilized nations of Europe that naval warfare can no longer be carried on by wooden hulls, and that scientific machinery, iron plating and engineering, are more essential to success than the regulations of the old regime, etc."

Giving machinery and iron plating their proper influence, are the civilized nations so convinced? Why, then, this discussion of the Alabama claims? Why are England and the United States almost at war on the subject of the doings of one small wooden ship?

England is stated to have "abandoned their old Admiralty Board as an engine of the past." The Admiralty Board of England is still in full power; has built and is still building the finest ships of war in the world, unequalled for size, armament, and speed, and before which every sea-going vessel of the United States Navy must, in the event of an encounter in war, sink or surrender, as they have not the speed which would make flight successful.

The article asserts that the bill is "an effort of the line officers to subordinate the staff." In all military duty or service, the fighting men must have precedence; it has been so, and must be so for all time. No effort is required to make it a fact. "When two ride on a horse, one must go in front."

It is also announced that the engineers of the Navy are "men who know their business." Whence, then, the enormous expenditure in ships and machinery of the last few years, built under the direction of Isherwood? Where are the successful vessels and "scientific mechanism" of which the writer boasts? What battles have been "won during the late rebellion by the machinery of

Monitors and iron-clads, more than by the handling of their titled commanders?" Who places the vessel in action, works and directs the fire of her guns, drills and disciplines the crew, incurs the responsibility of defeat, imperils the lives of others as well as his own? Who controls the action of that "scientific mechanism" by the "tinkling of a little bell?" What has the machinery to do but obey the voice and gesture of the "titled commander?" Its chief merit, so far, has been in our service to preclude the possibility of avoiding an engagement by flight.

The article would claim the genius of Ericsson for naval engineers! He would now and has ever objected to be included in such fraternity. The Navy would be proud indeed to reckon his genius as theirs, and be glad to reward it. One of the introducers of "scientific mechanism" into the Navy attempted to improve upon that genius—and with what result? The twenty-eight monitors built under his supervision would not float when ready to leave the stocks, and we have them now as costly memorials of the genius of these practical men "who know their business!" The article proceeds to inquire: "Had the invention of Ericsson been submitted to a board of line officers without a staff officer upon it, what would have been the result?" Does the gentleman know that the plans of the original Monitor were submitted to a board of "three line officers," without a staff officer upon it? That from a great number and variety of plans, this one was selected by them to be built? This board consisted of the present Rear-Admirals, Smith, Paulding, and Davis. No staff officers had any connection with it. I beg to refer to the report of the honorable Secretary of the Navy, dated December 2, 1861, and to the report of that board, for information in this regard.

Were these the "old men merely admirals and rear-admirals, and not scientific machinists and engineers," to which the article refers? With the writer of the article, all will agree that practical men are the ones to be desired and trusted, and perhaps it will be admitted that in matters appertaining to ships-of-war, even line officers who handle them in storm and in battle, may be included in that category.

The friends of the service, who have studied and understand the character of the vessels which now compose the naval force, desire to secure for it vessels which shall not disgrace the mechanical skill of the country, and make the American Navy the laughing stock of the naval world, to secure vessels which shall be a terror to our foes, and not to those who inhale them. They desire vessels which can keep the seas through all weathers in safety, which can fight with honor and success, and which can pursue and capture an enemy's vessels. We have few such.

With all due deference to the opinions expressed in the article, it is offered that the men who have carried, and are still to carry, our fleets and vessels successfully through naval wars, who have conducted the great naval achievements of the past war, earning the expressed thanks of Congress and the gratitude of the country—that they are the ones who can best judge of the means by which naval operations can be successfully conducted. The occupation of the six hundred and fourteen engineers now supported by the Government, is confined to the occasional driving of the engines of our ships, but should any one of them succeed in any great effort of mechanical genius, none would more gladly welcome it than the officers of the Navy.

X.

AN INDIAN FIGHT IN NEW MEXICO.

LEESBURG, NEW MEXICO, ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES FROM FORT SELDEN, November 24, 1867.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I take the liberty of forwarding you a brief account of a fight between Company K, Third U. S. Cavalry, and about seventy-five Apache Indians, on the 20th inst. At half past three o'clock P. M., on the day mentioned, news reached Fort Selden that Indians had attacked the herd guard, and were driving off the herd belonging to the fort, consisting of thirty mules and thirteen horses. Boots and saddles were immediately sounded, and in less than five minutes Troop K, Third U. S. Cavalry was in pursuit, and after a chase of fifteen miles recaptured the whole herd, killing three Indians, wounding several, and dismounting thirteen warriors. Seven Indian ponies were taken by the cavalry, and six picked up by Mexicans following in the rear, as the cavalry would not stop to gather them up, being anxious to drive the enemy.

Second Lieutenant Oscar Elting (a New Yorker), and First Sergeant Wm. Jackson, Third Cavalry, in command of detachments, fought them in three mountain ravines from behind immense rocks and stones. The savages were thoroughly whipped and demoralized, fleeing to, and hiding in the mountains after the last impetuous charge, which took place at sundown. The cavalry returned to the Fort (having to quit the chase on account of the darkness), without the loss of a man, highly pleased with their success. The commanding officer of Fort Selden, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Jos. G. Tilford, Third Cavalry, accompanied the expedition, and in his official report gives great praise to Lieutenant Elting and Sergeant Jackson for their promptness, zeal, and energy. A Mexican was killed by the cavalry, being mistaken for an Indian.

One horse was killed in action, and two mules lanced by the Indians to prevent them from falling into the hands of the pursuers.

First Lieutenant E. A. Rigg, Thirty-eighth Infantry, and Acting Assistant Surgeon J. C. Beers also took part in the chase. First Lieutenant L. L. O'Connor, Third Cavalry, was officer of the day at the fort, and, much to his regret, was not allowed to pursue the enemy, as his presence was needed at the garrison. The men of Company K, Third U. S., are splendid Indian fighters, having had experience in a big fight, under the command of Captain Wilson, Third Cavalry, and First Sergeant Jackson, last October. The boys are anxious for another fight before Christmas.

CITIZEN.

BREVETS AND PAY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Permit me to make a suggestion concerning brevets, and also the pay of the Army.

Let brevet rank mean rank in the Army at large, with the pay, but without the command. Give brevets for length of service only. For gallant or meritorious conduct give medals, crosses, ribbons and clasps.

Abolish service rations, and, instead, promote officers, by brevet.

Thus: An officer enters the service as a second lieutenant, serves six years in that grade and is then brevetted first lieutenant, nine years after he is brevetted a captain, eight years in that grade gives him the brevet of major, seven years as a major, lieutenant-colonel; five years as lieutenant-colonel, colonel; five years as colonel, brigadier-general; five years as brigadier-general gives him the brevet grade of major-general. Should he by casualties of service, receive his promotion before he was entitled to the brevet grade, so much the better for him. Thus if it should happen six years of service made him a captain, then eight years after he would receive his brevet as major. In other words, service of so many years in one grade, promotes to the next higher.

Promote officers according to the arm. Now we have promotion for brevet, second lieutenant, captains, majors, and lieutenant-colonels, in that manner. If just for them, let it be extended to the second and first lieutenants. I can recall several instances where officers obtained their promotion to captaincies in advance of those who were three or four years their seniors simply by the accident of getting into a regiment where vacancies occurred. If there is anything in rank when appointed, and seniority rules in promotions, it should be held good all through the arm.

Abolish all brevets now in the Army, and confer them as follows: All officers of the Regular Army to be brevetted one grade, upon the commissions actually held by them upon the 9th, of April, 1865.

Officers of Volunteers, who have entered the Regular service since that date, to be brevetted one grade upon the one to which they were commissioned in the Regular Army; provided that does not give them a higher grade than that actually held by them in the Volunteer forces, or brevet them to a higher grade than colonel. And that they also be credited with the time they have served as commissioned officers of Volunteers, of the grade to which brevetted, or higher.

Say Richard Roe, enters the Volunteer service 1st of August, 1861, serves one year as second lieutenant, and then is promoted to be first lieutenant, serves two years as a first lieutenant, and is then promoted captain, serves one year in that grade and then is mustered out. Then is appointed 28th of July, 1866, as a second lieutenant he would appear on the register: Richard Roe, second lieutenant, 28th July, 1866; first lieutenant, brevet rank, etc., 28th July, 1863; original entry, second lieutenant Volunteers 1st August, '61. If a first lieutenant, as: Richard Roe, first lieutenant, 28th July, '66; captain, brevet 28th July, '65; second lieutenant Volunteers, 1st August, '61. If a captain, as: Richard Roe, captain, 28th July, 1866; brevet rank, etc., 28th July 1865; original entry, second lieutenant, Volunteers, 1st August, 1861. Had he served only a year as a commissioned officer of Volunteers, say been promoted a second lieutenant 1st of August, 1864, and appointed second lieutenant 28th of July, 1866, it would appear: Richard Roe, second lieutenant, 28th July, 1866; brevet rank, etc., 28th July, 1865; original entry, second lieutenant Volunteers, 1st August, 1864.

I think it would be better to say, however, that all these promotions were in the Army at large, and not call them brevet promotions, until they reach a grade above colonel. Thus a captain of the Fifty-first Infantry, promoted to be major, would be commissioned as a "major in the Army of the United States," and be in fact a major, U. S. Army, and captain Fifty-first Infantry.

Officers upon the retired list to receive promotion the same as those upon the active list, and assigned to such duty as they are capable of performing. When on duty to receive same pay as though upon active list.

Give all officers of the same grade the same amount of pay, and permit officers who by law are required to be mounted, the use of two public horses. General officers and field officers of cavalry to be allowed four. In case any mounted officers choose to use their own horses to be permitted to draw forage for not exceeding two.

Pay officers as follows: second lieutenant, pay proper per month, \$60; first lieutenant, pay proper per month, \$80; captain, pay proper per month, \$100; major, pay proper per month, \$130; lieutenant-colonel, pay proper per month, \$140; colonel, pay proper per month, \$150; brigadier-general, pay proper per month, \$200; major-general, pay proper per month, \$250; lieutenant-general pay proper per month, \$300; general, pay proper per month, \$400; rations and servants as now fixed by law.

Regimental staff officers to be taken from among the brevet captains, and be extra officers, receiving no additional pay for the duty.

Allowance to company commander, of a captain or subaltern, as now fixed.

It seems to me this will not involve any greater outlay than the service rations, now given in addition to pay. Is very simple, and gives the Volunteer officers credit for the time they have served as commissioned officers.

Officers upon the retired list to be paid as follows: second lieutenant, per annum, \$800; first lieutenant, \$900; captain, \$1,000; major, \$1,200; lieutenant-colonel, \$1,400; colonel, \$1,600; brigadier-general, \$1,800; Major-general, \$2,000; lieutenant-general, \$2,400; general, \$3,000; officers suspended from command and waiting orders, to receive retired pay only.

Officers to be allowed two months leave of absence every year without loss of pay or allowances, and in case an officer does not avail himself of the time, it is placed to his credit, and he is permitted at any time thereafter to do so. To this end all leaves of absence of

any nature whatever to be reported to the Adjutant-General of the Army, and a copy of the order sent direct to the paymaster-general. Officers who have leave exceeding the amount prescribed, to receive retired pay only, for the time absent in excess.

Promote the officers now upon the retired list, the same as though this plan had been in operation, and they had received their promotion under it. This, I think, would be only an act of justice, as their pay would be reduced.

MONTANA.

SUGGESTIONS ABOUT BREVETS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It appears from your issue of the 14th December that the House of Representatives has passed a bill providing that commissions by brevet shall only be conferred in time of war, and for distinguished services in the presence of the enemy. As regards the future this law is very well, but it is no remedy for the existing evil, and while Congress has the subject under consideration, I think you may render a great service to the Army, if not to its necessary appendages, by urging upon that honorable body some modifications in the bill, so that its wise provisions may at once apply to brevet commissions. I would suggest that all brevet commissions which may have been issued at the date of the passage of the act, be annulled, and that the whole subject of brevet rank be revised, and that it be considered in reference to the new law, by which means the intention of Congress will be carried into effect. If this change be too radical, I would then suggest that the bill be so modified, that brevet rank shall be entered upon the Army Register the same as Volunteer rank, but that it shall confer no other privilege, unless the brevet is issued for gallantry in presence of the enemy, in which case the officer shall be authorized and required to wear a silver badge, with the name and date of the battle for which it is conferred engraved upon it, and if the brevet is for conspicuous gallantry, a ribbon of red, white and blue colors shall be appended to the badge. This small piece of ribbon would possess a priceless value to a true soldier, which the highest grade of brevet rank as it now exists in the service does not confer. These views may not be palatable to officers who have enjoyed a generous fare throughout our late war, but I feel quite sure they will be relished by those who have gratefully partaken of pork and hard tack on the PICKET LINE.

A TEMPERANCE SOCIETY IN THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Some time since, after reading the forcible articles on temperance, which appeared in the JOURNAL, we thought of following them up with some suggestions, drawn from our own experience; but as some facts were being developed, concerning an effort in that direction, at this post, in successful operation, instances becoming more and more numerous of real, practical good accomplished by it, we have waited until now in order to show facts and figures; assuming that practical results are what is being sought for; trusting that the work commenced here may spread throughout the Army.

Scene. Group of officers discussing the rapid transfer of men from companies to the guard house. Time (of course): Just after pay day. No. 1. "Well! we are putting the old party back again—quite natural to see their faces!" No. 2. "Yes, but I did hope that extra dose of cell and loss of pay would hold a few of them!" No. 3. "No use of talking, the only way is to take all their pay and keep taking it!" No. 4. "That's so! What! make anything out of such inveterate old soaks? No, sir, they came into the Army for a three years drunk, and have it they will!" etc. With experience in the Army, these deductions are quite natural. After an appeal to some of the men oftenest in the guard room, by reason of drink, and finding that it was encouragement that was somewhat needed; learning, also, that there was a feeling among them that a society of some sort, something to keep them reminded continually of the effects of drink, when free from it, would be such an encouragement, we handed, July 6th last, with the approval of the General Commanding, a notice to the first sergeants of companies that, "that evening there would be a meeting, for the consideration of temperance and moral reform." A goodly number came, other meetings followed, a desire was manifested by the men that a society be formed at once; and, as the Good Templar organization seemed to afford working facilities, adapted to the Army as an order, it was decided that this should be the name of our society. The first night of organization, twenty-seven joined. Numbers steadily increased, notwithstanding one company, in the meanwhile, was ordered away, leaving us three companies in garrison. Now, our membership is ninety-three (93) (four have, thus far, being expelled.) The facts which have been shown; and we have waited until now before embodying them for the JOURNAL, only that what we might say need not be considered in the light of an experiment, but as a result, real and most profoundly gratifying to those feeling the great necessity for a radical change in the Army, in this one direction.

From time to time, as the men would be released from the guard house, they would join the order, saying, "if such a comrade can keep his obligation over pay day, I can," and so, repeatedly, we received the most habitual guard-room denizens, and saw these, hitherto victims of whiskey, and, by reason of it, our worst men, changed into what were, as commanding officers of companies said, as good soldiers as any in their companies. Said an officer to me, one noted for his capacity as a rigid disciplinarian, "my first sergeant came from Governor's Island a drunkard, joined my company as such, now, he is as fine a non-commissioned officer as I ever saw in the Army—the society made him such." John B. Gough would modestly take a "back seat," could he hear the appeals of some of the saved men to their comrades! One, I call to mind, especially, who has been a working member for nearly four months, a man who has been a common drunkard for twenty-five years, one who would have been the last, in his company, to call forth one word

of encouragement from an officer; to look at him, you would have said, instinctively, "only a question of time! you are a 'goner' sure!" A few evenings since, when addressing his comrades, he said, as only he could say it, "Why, I used to be sick all the time, couldn't go on guard, could n't hold up my head, would go to the doctor, doctor would say 'stick out your tongue,' I'd stick it out, 'give this man a couple of pills!' So I'd go day after day. Never had a dollar a-head (then seeming to feel again the kindlings of his lost manhood), now, I can hold up my head anywhere, in the ranks, here, never go to the doctor, can put my hand into my pocket now, and bring out fifty dollars, could n't do that before! It don't trouble me to go past E——'s hotel with it in my pocket either." So this effort has resulted, not only in keeping many who were becoming drunkards, but saving such as have been referred to, returned to companies, old inhabitants of the guard house, as clean and fine appearing soldiers as any in the command, thus increasing the morale and discipline. I only wish it was in my power, more graphically, to describe this satisfactory work. Here, then, is a plan, one which has borne the severest trials and proved itself an eminently successful one, which if it could be properly brought before those Army officers who feel the importance of the work, would command their thoughtful consideration. Congress may legislate to punish citizens for selling to soldiers, and the soldiers for drinking, but is it not the experience of the Army, that punishment does not prevent the evil? A word of suggestion: Let there be temperance societies formed, called by any name you please, only so they are efficient (the "Good Templar" seems to do the work). Get your hall and regalia; let the officers move first in the matter, soon efficient enlisted men will be found to provide and carry on the work with the counsel, and, very often, the presence of officers; this encourages, for the only way to fight whiskey is to fight it, that too in every conceivable form and shape! So shall temperance, the bane of the Army, be rooted out, a high state of discipline attained, and our Army be the pride of our nation! *The Army of the world!* * * *

ENGINEERS IN THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It seems to me that every officer who has the good of our naval service at heart is deeply interested in the success of Senator Nye's bill, providing for a Naval Board of Survey. Something must be done to check the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, who has already greatly injured the efficiency of so many of the vessels of our Navy as sailing vessels, as well as steamers. It is with a view to aid in placing these matters in their proper light that I send you the following remarks on the subject:

No nation can expect to keep their heads above water financially, if they do not study economy in the strictest sense, and hence it is that you find the navies of France and England conducted on the most systematic and economical plan.

At the same time, due regard is had to efficiency, and there can be nothing more complete in all the details than the navies of the two nations alluded to. They have studied out the problems of expense and efficiency, and have at last got things so nicely balanced that there is little or nothing needed in the French and English navies to perfect them. There is no reason why we should pursue a different system when it leads to extravagance and ruin.

What particular advantage is there in having an engineer to be at all times on watch in the engine-room, when it is a well-established fact that in the French navy they have but one engineer on board each vessel of the largest class?

Mr. Isherwood, Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of our Navy, states, in his late report, that "the French have the best and most scientifically-organized navy in the world;" and this is true, for to keep up so large a navy as they are required to do it is necessary to reduce the expenses in every department, and to have no superfluous officers of a kind more ornamental than useful.

Beside one engineer on shipboard, the engine drivers in the French navy are mechanics, who do not hold positions as officers. They are men perfectly acquainted with the use of tools, and are brought up in the machine shops of France. These men hold the same positions as the drivers of locomotive engines on a railroad; and who that knows anything of the matter but will admit that there is ten times more care required in the management of a locomotive engine than in that of an ordinary marine engine?

If, as Mr. Isherwood claims, there is such an advance in the complication (!) of machinery, then it would, perhaps, be necessary for us to have a different class of engineers in charge of engines; but in every foreign country the practice has been to simplify all machinery, and it is paying but a poor tribute to us, as a mechanical and ingenious people, for any one to say that "our advances in mechanical science are of a nature to produce complicated and expensive machinery for producing both new and increased results in economy and power!" What would be the use of a corps of theoretical engineers on board of a steamer with the engine broken down, and not one of them knowing how to wield a hammer, or weld a piece of iron? Who is there that has commanded a steamship in our Navy who has not seen the necessity of having more mechanical ability among the engineers, and who, when his vessel got damaged in the machinery, did not have to sail away to some machine shop?

This is apt to happen even with the best mechanical ability on board, for when an engine does "break down," there are really no facilities on shipboard for repairing it, unless the break be of a very ordinary character. How is it that our navy-yards were crowded with steamers during the late rebellion, awaiting repairs, and why did we not keep the vessels on their stations—"depending on the engineers alone, for new adaptations of means to ends?"

It was the ordinary mechanic after all, who did the

work at the dock-yards, under the superintendence of one engineer at each station, while the large force of engineers (generally employed on board our steamers), were doing no more to expedite the fitting of the vessel and laying in stores than could have been done by one person.

Mr. Isherwood claims that the Navy is no longer what it was; that the work of building its ships must naturally fall into the hands of the engineers, because the "Navy has so progressed and improved with the times that it must be in charge of those who are the only ones capable of understanding the application of new inventions in mechanism and new discoveries in science."

This might perhaps be true had our steam department produced any important and successful results for the millions of dollars expended. Out of the many sharp and fine models now in our Navy, where every sea-going quality has been sacrificed to obtain speed, there cannot be said to exist one great success with engines designed by the bureau; and it is a well-known fact that a number of monitors that were designed and superintended under the direction of the same authority, were not only unfit to carry their iron turrets but would not float without being raised upon. These are facts patent to all, and these failures were turned into impotent torpedo boats, more feared by ourselves than by the enemy!

If so much depends on our throwing the Navy into the hands of Mr. Isherwood, why is it that we are building at this time so many clipper, wooden vessels? and why has England fitted out thirty vessels, rigged and equipped exactly like the *Alabama*? These vessels are intended to keep the sea under sail, their engines to remain at rest until there exists an actual necessity for their use.

How is it that the best monitors we have—the *Monadnock*, *Agamenticus* and others—have been designed and built under the direction of Mr. Lenthall?

I have no animosity, whatever, toward the corps of engineers, for it is desirable to have a certain number in the Navy, but we do not want to see the existence of the Navy imperilled by the extravagance of the engineer department, headed by Isherwood.

There is no reason why we should have a greater number of that class of officers than the combined navies of England, France, and Russia. Such, however, is the case. The French have 122, the English 260, and the Russian 150.

If we could reduce the number of our engineers to that of the French navy, the money saved yearly would build a magnificent steam frigate, and our ships would be made more comfortable and healthy if they were not unnecessarily crowded with officers. Let me ask any one conversant with the matter, what is the use of having so many engineers on board of a vessel, if the order of the Secretary of the Navy is to be carried out to the letter, viz.: "that the vessels of the Navy are never to steam except in cases of actual necessity, and will mark in their steam and other logs, whenever they have to get up steam?" It certainly does not require so large a number of engineers to make a voyage under sail; one engineer would be quite enough, and the firemen and coalheavers, who could take their watches on deck, would be much healthier men if the vessels of the Navy could all get along without the aid of steam as vessels do in other navies, saving millions a year in coal.

On the whole it is a necessity that the Navy should economize in its steam department, and no more steps should be taken in pursuit of "new discoveries in physical science," until we have a board of officers, constituted by law, with full power to decide whether said "discoveries" are of a nature to meet the demands of the Navy.

Now there is another subject to which I would like to draw the general attention. How is it that the numerous steamships that sail from our ports for England, France, Spain, Cuba, Rio Janeiro, the Pacific, Japan, and the Lord knows where else, all run so successfully and so rapidly when they don't have on board Mr. Isherwood's complicated and expensive machinery, and their own simple marine engines are manipulated only by good, practical men, who lay no claim to the high professional abilities which seem to knock Mr. Isherwood's naval engines into cocked hats and smithierins generally? These men know how to run their engines safely year after year, and make a speed across the ocean averaging twelve knots an hour.

Who will dare say that anything ever built by Mr. Isherwood can compete with the engines of the magnificent steam lines that run between this country and England and France? If we had a war with either of those powers, these merchant steamships would be the first we would like to get hold of, for they are very fast vessels and could be used like the *Alabama* to cut up commerce on the sea, and we have not a single vessel that could catch one of them.

These vessels have among them a large number of engine drivers who would be much bothered if they had to wear what they call a claw-hammer jacket and a pair of epaulets, or had to stop and enquire who took precedence—the mate, or the cabin cook, or themselves—before they could descend through the hatch to the engine room. The owners of these steam lines don't inquire whether their men understand Mr. Isherwood's "complicated and expensive machinery for producing both new and increased results in economy and power."

They simply inquire whether they are hardworking, practical engineers, who can work with tools, and put an engine in order if it breaks down, and it is a reflection on the class of men who actually build our engines and are employed as engineers in all the ocean steamships, to say that there is a better class of men anywhere, than they are. It may do very well for Mr. Isherwood to deride the idea of putting his "complicated and expensive machinery for producing both new and increased results" (*O tempora, O mores!*), in the hands of those who are too ignorant to comprehend, much less to use it; which in plain English, is about the veriest twaddle that ever was written. Why, last year the *Sietara* was fitted out with one of his complicated things and sent to sea,

with midshipmen on board to run the engine, and any one who will read Captain Jeffers' report, will be satisfied that the duty was efficiently performed. It is not necessary to have a shipload of engineers to manage a single marine engine; for notwithstanding Mr. Isherwood has according to his own confession somewhat complicated his, yet a good mechanic with a good sledge hammer could bring it back to its original simplicity, by knocking away the new-fashioned "gilguys," "claptraps," and "jimcracks," that have been introduced to bother good mechanics, and delude the uninitiated. NAVY.

THE PAYMENT OF THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I think if the honorable members composing the Military Committee of the House, had been here a few days since to see the crowded condition of our guard house, they would not have reported adversely upon paying the Army weekly, or, at least, oftener than every two months. "Pay day" is unquestionably prejudicial to good order and military discipline, even in the very best regulated commands, and there is not in the service to-day an old and experienced officer who will not, I am certain, endorse the above assertion. Take the command now stationed here for a sample, than which no more orderly and well-conducted set of men were in the service for three months previous, scarcely a man confined in the guard house, and if there was one it was for some petty offence, and he was released in from twelve to twenty-four hours. No disorders, no one absent from a roll call, no drunken men, everything going on like clock work, as it should be in every well-regulated command; but "pay day" came, as come it must in the natural course of military events, and, presto, change; absentees without number; guard house full, from forty to fifty men in it; non-commissioned officers under arrest; garrison courts in full blast; officers worried to death by the conduct of their men, and, finally, whiskey, that everlasting curse of both soldier and sailor, triumphant for a time at least. This is the result of a body of men going two, three, four, and even six months without any money, rushing from one extreme to the other.

There is not a shadow of doubt, but that shorter periods of time between payments is absolutely needed. If not once a week, why not make it once every two weeks? or even monthly; there is, not an army in the world (I believe) which is not paid at shorter intervals than ours, the British army being paid every day. "Pay day," as now constituted, is a crying evil, and it is really astonishing that Congress, in which there are so many military men, who must necessarily be conversant with this whole subject, will not do something to remedy this evil. Why not give the weekly, or half-month, system a trial, and if found to be impracticable it would be very easy to return to the present system. It is beyond question that a reform in the Army in this one particular is sadly needed.

OLD SOLDIER.

MOBILE, Ala., December, 1867.

PAY OF THE NON-COMMISSION STAFF.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Permit me through your columns to invite attention to the low rate of pay now allowed by law to the non-commission staff of the Army. A sergeant-major receives \$26 per month, and a regimental quartermaster and commissary sergeant \$22. Whereas a first sergeant of a company gets \$24, or two more than members of the non-commission staff. Even a regimental hospital steward, whose duties, at least in time of peace, are not near so arduous as that of sergeant-major, receives \$33. A quartermaster sergeant of engineers, who has hardly any responsibility, and less labor than the quartermaster sergeant of a regiment, receives \$36 per month, or \$10 more than a sergeant-major, and \$14 more than a quartermaster and commissary sergeant of artillery, and certainly there cannot be any justice for such distinction. Why cannot the pay of the non-commission staff be raised at least to an equality with those of the engineer battalion?

Nearly every week articles appear in your valuable paper suggesting an increase of pay, etc., of first sergeants, but, so far, I have not been able to discover any recommendation for the non-commission staff; as there are only three in a regiment it may account for it, but nevertheless, their cases seem harder than those of other enlisted men in the service.

I often have heard officers of high rank and long experience in service say that the pay of the non-commission staff is entirely inadequate to the responsibility and labor performed, and have even heard it suggested that the pay of sergeant-major be increased to \$60 per month. Though not believing in extravagance, especially at present when the order of the day seems to be economy, I fully believe in justice, and justice demands an increase of pay for those men. How little the non-commission staff is satisfied with their present rate of pay, you may easily imagine from the fact of hardly any of them re-enlisting; beside other men (even first sergeants) may be easily replaced, but as regards the non-commission staff, their positions cannot be so easily filled, as there places must be occupied by intelligent, sober, and trusty men. Though plenty good men are in the service, not every good man is qualified to fill these positions.

ALASKA.

FORT H., December, 1867.

"EXPERIENCE" AND THE UNIFORM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent from the Northwest "pitches into me," for desiring a gray field uniform. Had his experience extended to campaigns in the "Alkali and sage brush" country, or to making adobes and building posts by the labor of fatigue parties, he would see the necessity of a change to some color that would not show the dust so readily as blue. We have had the proposed color in use at West Point for many years, and, I believe, at one time in the Army. There is no reason why it should be prohibited, if suitable, merely because the Rebels used it."

We might just as well discard all styles of muskets and cannon used by the Rebels. Even if they had been the first to use the color, it is ours by conquest, and if it is for any reason preferable, let us adopt it. I think it best suited for campaign and frontier service, but would like our dress uniform to be made of blue, and more showy than the present one.

As the gentleman acknowledged himself satisfied with the officers' uniform, I have only to say, if he complies strictly with paragraph 114 of the Regulations, he is the only one I have heard of who is. I do not suppose a style can be suggested that will please every one, but think something can be suggested which will be received with more favor than that in use at present. My object in writing was only to call attention to that most suited to this region.

INFANTRY.

FORT WEST, Dec. 10, 1867.

NEW REGISTER.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: We need in addition to the list of officers now given in the Army Register, a list of all the officers of the Army, according to their rank by brevet, and, also, according to their actual rank. Let us have this list immediately after that of field officers and captains of Infantry. To save space let the list contain the names of all the officers of the Army, in the order of rank—some what similar to that published in the Register for 1847—giving the brevet rank in its proper place, but printed in italics. So an officer having rank, say as a brevet colonel, would appear in the list of colonels, printed in italics, and if a captain, would also appear in the list of captains with his date as a captain.

As it now stands it is impossible, from the Army Register alone, to detail a general Court-martial correctly, reference has to be made to the general orders announcing appointments, and in many cases some four or five orders have to be examined.

I think the mere mention of the necessity of the list asked for, to the officer who has the preparation of the next Army Register, will secure its insertion.

Nov. 30, 1867.

JUDGE ADVOCATE.

A PLEA FOR THE CHASSEUR CAP.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Among the numerous suggestions concerning the contemplated change in the Army uniform, permit me to enter a plea in behalf of the Chasseur cap for officers. I do not refer to the forage cap prescribed by regulations, which is neither tasty nor becoming to most men, but to the cap of the pattern commonly known as the Chasseur or cadet, and which, by general preference, has been adopted by officers, and sanctioned by "customs of the service." It is at once, neat, jaunty, and comfortable, and while the major portion of our uniform might be changed to advantage, I think the regular adoption of the Chasseur cap for undress, field or ordinary garrison duty, would meet the almost unanimous favor of the Army.

MOI-MEME.

NEW BOOKS.

HARPER & BROTHERS have published the lectures on the evidences of christianity, delivered by the Rev. Albert Barnes, before the students of the Union Theological Seminary of New York, during January and February, 1867. Although the subject is by no means a new one, there is no American divine better fitted to discuss it than the author of the "Notes on the New Testament." The present lectures are the first delivered on the foundation established by Mr. Zebulon Stiles Ely, of New York, and are published in accordance with the directions of the founder. Any work from so distinguished a source is sure to meet a ready reception from the religious public, while the clear logic with which the reverend lecturer discusses his subject, recommends his remarks to all those who have honest doubts as to the divine origin of the christian religion.

"MR. SECRETARY PEPPYS, with extracts from his Diary by Allen Grant," is the title of a little work recently published by Messrs. Wynkoop & Sherwood. Samuel Pepys, the writer of the aforesaid diary, was an Englishman, who lived in the seventeenth century, and was in the habit of taking pen-and-ink photographs of the times in which he lived, thus embalming for posterity much historical fact, mingled with gossip, which is deeply interesting to the student of English history. The diary opens in 1659 and closes in 1669, covering a period of ten years, commencing with the events which followed the death of Cromwell. The quaint style in which the diary is written gives it a peculiar attraction, in addition to the facts it contains of the personal history of the men of that period.

GOLDEN TRUTHS is a handsomely got-up book, containing selections of prose and poetry from distinguished writers on religious subjects. The selections have been judiciously made, and are really what the compiler styles them, "words fitly spoken," appealing strongly to the religious sentiment. Boston: Lee & Shepard.

THE "Brother's Bet; or, Within Six Weeks," by Emile Flygare Carlen, author of "The Lover's Stratagem," etc., is the latest addition to Harper's library of select novels.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hays, Kansas, on Monday, December 23, 1867, at ten o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court: Captain Samuel Over-shine, Fifth U. S. Infantry; Assistant Surgeon W. F. Buchanan, U. S. Army; Captain George W. Graham, Tenth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant Joseph M. Kelly, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant John B. Nixon, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Myron J. Amick, Tenth U. S. Cavalry. Judge-Advocate: Second Lieutenant Jacob A. Souders, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

One of the English double-screw steam launches has just had her trial trip. She is fitted with two high-pressure engines, each of which works its screw independent of the other. The screws are double bladed, two feet six inches in diameter, with a length of three and a half inches, and an immersion of the upper edge of one inch. At the trial they were set to a pitch of three feet six inches. The nominal power of the engines is six horses. With eleven cwt. of coal, a full crew and stores on board the launch drew three feet aft and one foot nine inches forward. With a load on the safety valve of seventy pounds, and a pressure of 79.5 in the boiler the engines made a maximum of 308 and a minimum of 306 revolutions per minute. The speed of the launch was 8.200 knots, which is considerably higher than any other of the launches has made.

THE French had, as late as December, 30,000 troops still in Italy. They went prepared to make their occupation more permanent, or at all events more valuable to the Pope than was supposed when the expedition left France. As many as one hundred and twenty guns were landed at Civita Vecchia of which seventy or eighty were heavy siege guns, which will be used in strengthening the defences of that place, where additional works are building under French superintendence. The Papal officers have also decided to fortify Monte Rotondo which has such a position that the whole Roman frontier can be quickly reached from it. So the Italians have suffered a double loss. A great opportunity of obtaining Rome has passed, and the Papal power is stronger than before the late movements.

It is now said that the Abyssinian corps with all its attendants will number 55,000 men instead of 12,000, and the English papers are all indignant about so much expense. The London Times says that the theory of the universe standing on an elephant, which is poised itself on a tortoise is not a greater inversion of the order of sequences, than this enormous armament "for which after all, the most probable account that can be given is, if not a bit of carelessness, a casual misunderstanding between two officers a quarter of a mile from each other in Westminster."

Now that the wind has gone down, the St. Thomas people are looking after the straws that were blown about in the gale. A gun on the ramparts of Fort Christian, used for firing the morning and evening salute, was forced through the parapet wall and thrown down into the barrack yard. A diving bell weighing nine tons was carried through the air a distance of at least a quarter of a mile. A stone which is supposed to weigh about forty tons, and has for a long time lain on the beach, now has a sail under it, spread out as evenly as a table cloth under a plate.

THE English have been pitting a rifle of their own make—the Carter and Edwards—against the Chassepot, and with results rather unflattering to the latter. The Carter and Edwards proved the better for celerity, and the Chassepot for accuracy of fire, but the French gun fouled at the thirteenth round and could not be fired without cleaning, after which, it began to foul again at the seventh round and was so foul at the thirteenth round that the cartridge would not explode.

LORD ELCHO has an instructive letter in the London Times of December 2d, in which he exposes the weakness of some of the British iron shields for fortifications. The Gibraltar shield, composed of three plates $5\frac{1}{2}$, 5, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, was penetrated, the H girders in the rear broken, nineteen bolts driven off, and great fissures made down the rear backing plate, all by a 9-inch bolt, fired at seventy yards range with a charge so calculated that the force of the blow was the same as if the shot were fired at two hundred yards with a full charge. Lord Elcho proposes another trial upon a target which exactly represents a segment of a fort, the guns to be the 9-inch and 600-pounder English, and the American 15-inch pieces of ordnance; the charges to be full battering charges, range two hundred yards. He puts in a well-timed protest against the inductive method of conducting experiments, i. e., firing at seventy yards with a charge calculated to produce only the effect of a two hundred-yards range. He scouts the correctness of this method, and says: "Elaborate and carefully-inductive calculations were made to prove that the Rodman gun could not with one hundred pounds of powder penetrate the 8-inch target. The actual experiment was made, and a 450-pound cast-iron shot was driven with ease alike through target and calculations."

LEAVE of absence for sixty days, on Surgeon's certificate of disability, has been granted to Captain J. M. Williams, Eighth Cavalry—with a recommendation to the Adjutant General of the Army for an extension of two months.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1868.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of the JOURNAL will always be glad to receive, from officers in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's, or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH.

ARMY REDUCTION.

WHETHER the vacation in which Congress is indulging will aid some of its members to look more calmly and coolly on the project of reducing the Army, will soon be manifest. There were we know not how many resolutions offered to that end, but all were so general in tenor as to encourage the hope that the practical difficulties in the way will cause the members to be content after all with the present organization. One of the latest of the Congressional resolutions on this point was a general declaration (the language is unimportant) that, in the present state of the national finances, the Army should be reduced to the lowest available point. We heartily coincide with the spirit that animated this resolution, and endorse it thoroughly; but when it comes to the practical numerical question, we think that there is nothing more to be done. We believe that "there is a point beyond which," etc., and that point, so far as reduction is concerned, has been reached.

Before us lies a list of the posts which the Army is called upon to garrison in times of peace, and the duties which it is required to perform; and we venture to say that to talk of discharging these duties with a substantially less force than at present, is chimerical. How shall we illustrate our meaning? Best, perhaps, by giving one example, to stand for all. At Fort Saunders (an ordinary post) the average of men present for duty during the months of August and September, was twenty-eight men—and that with forty-three prisoners in the guard-house. The garrison of the post is nominally *six full companies* of Infantry. We beg to know how much "reduction" is to be effected at Fort Saunders. If anything at all, it would be *reductio ad absurdum*.

Fort Saunders may be left as a shining example of how the question of Army reduction stands with regard to the peace-garrison duty of our troops. How that question stands with regard to the Indian difficulties past, present and prospective, and to the annexation schemes, past, present and prospective, we have shown in former numbers of the JOURNAL. There is one other point, however, which has not been sufficiently elaborated, simply because fresh evidence is constantly coming up to show its importance—we mean Army reduction respecting reconstruction. If we gather together merely the official reports of the past month, we shall find abundant cause to question the propriety of reducing the Army in the South, until its presence ceases to be required, for governmental purposes, at all.

General THOMAS—a moderate and imperturbable soldier, not given to extravagance, and not easily scared by prospective difficulties—reports to General GRANT that "with his present force, he is able *partially* to hold in check the disloyal tendencies of the people, and to punish, *if not prevent*; that, although there still remains *much to be desired* in the way of protection to life and property throughout his command, outrages are not so prevalent as formerly; but the feeling of the people is still hostile to the Government." Now, where is this region thus described? In what was once a "hot-bed of secession?" Not at all, but on the border line; on debatable ground, where it would seem that the supporters of the Government might be able to hold their own against those "hostile" to it. General THOMAS commands the "Department of the Cumberland," which embraces the States of Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee. If these things be done in the green tree, what shall be

done in the dry? He speaks of West Virginia, not of Louisiana; not of Texas, but of Tennessee. General GRANT tells us that even in West Virginia a small force is retained, "as it is believed that without it the laws would not be impartially executed." Now, is it proposed to withdraw this small force or to reduce it further? If the object of Congress is *not* to have its laws impartially executed, then certainly they ought to be withdrawn. But if they are not to be withdrawn even from West Virginia, then where, in the South, is it proposed to "retrench?" Not to speak of the services of the troops in Memphis last August, and in Nashville last September, we have here a very cool and phlegmatic soldier candidly reporting that the present force of the Army in three of the most northerly Southern States can only "partially" accomplish the object for which Congress has (wrongly or rightly) put them there; that they content themselves with "punishing, if not preventing" unlawful proceedings, that "much is still to be desired in the way of protection," and so forth. And yet one of the first places to "retrench" in would probably be the Department of the Cumberland.

In many parts of the South the civil authorities are calling for more help from the military against lawless negroes. The grand jury and citizens of Nicol County, Arkansas, lately petitioned for troops to be stationed in their county, "to protect them and their stock against the negroes," and the accounts from other counties in that State with regard to the same necessity, are said to be distressing. Colonel JAMES represents at Washington that in that whole region "great uneasiness is felt by the whites," and that "no man's life is safe, no matter whence he hails."

Governor HUMPHRIES, of Mississippi, lately issued a proclamation setting forth the dangers of agrarian riots on the part of the blacks, resulting from discontent and distress, and asking citizens to report news of "conspiracies against the peace of society" to the civil and military authorities, adding that should formidable resistance be made to legal process, "prompt assistance will be afforded by the United States military authorities." But he ought surely to have added that this could be relied upon, unless the troops had been previously "economized" out of the State, or retained in such paucity of numbers that neither prompt nor effectual assistance would be possible.

General CANBY, in an order which, aiming to save the expenses of several headquarters, arranges but eight posts in the Carolinas, adds that "in addition to the duties with which they are charged by existing orders," commanding officers of posts must hereafter "exercise all the functions of officers of the [Freedmen's] Bureau, except the administration and control of its funds," and that officers and enlisted men of their commands are to be employed also upon Bureau duty. The officers and agents of the Bureau henceforth report to the commander of the post. These additional duties in any district are surely not to be complained of, but are very properly made to devolve upon the Army, in order to allow the discharge of many civilian employees; but it will hardly do to give the Army new and unusual duties, and then to cut down its numbers in the way proposed.

General ORD declares that it is only "the troops distributed throughout the States" in his late district, that have "kept in order the ignorant and lawless;" that certain "offences of an aggravated nature" can not find civil courts to deal with them justly, and require military commissions; that candidates for necessary civil positions are unwilling to "defy public opinion by accepting office, unless supported by a military force afterward;" and that "the presence of a larger military force will be required for some time to maintain the freedmen in the right of suffrage." If Congress wishes the ignorant and lawless not to be kept in order, the freedmen to be maltreated, the magistrates and other civil officers to be subjected to terrorism, if this be its aim, we should advise a prompt withdrawal of a part of the forces from this District. If Congress only wishes to substantially disfranchise the freedmen, it can be done as General ORD suggests, by continuing there merely the present troops without re-enforcement. But we doubt

whether, except in these cases, there is a chance to "reduce" in that locality.

General GILLEM, who commands the Fourth District until General McDOWELL relieves him, lately reported that the freedmen of the district were "idle, and in a great majority of instances without support, while complaints came from every section of depredations committed on live stock." In another portion of this elaborate report, he declared it "a matter of very grave doubt whether, in the present condition of affairs, the civil authorities, unaided by the military, will be able to maintain order and execute the law." In treating of the delusion of the freedmen with regard to the confiscation of lands and their redistribution among them, and with regard to "the almost daily petitions and memorials asserting the existence of organized companies of freedmen, and asking the presence and protection of troops;" his report further shows the good influence of the military forces.

But we need cite no more examples, for our purpose. From the late official testimony of the actual condition of the Southern Districts at this day, it is clear, at all events, that while there are many ungrounded apprehensions afloat of special dangers, there is yet in the disorganized and untranquil condition of society, a need of the constant presence, for several months at least, of the strong arm of military force. It is needed for the peace of the country; for the protection of the whites against the freedmen, and of the freedmen against the whites; for inspiring confidence in citizens and business men, who cannot rely on either the power or the moderation of local *posses* or State militias.

We find two classes of persons most eager to "reduce the Army" altogether out of the South. One is the class of red-handed revolutionists, who are stirring up a war of races, and are eager to have the freedmen rise and seize the plantations of the whites in the country and their warehouses in the city, to the old cry of the French Revolution, *aristocrats à la lanterne*. We admit that this class is logical in its desire to remove the troops from the South. The other class are the persistent and malignant men who would rather have chaos forever with the freedmen trampled under foot, than Union and peace, on any preliminary basis of agreement but their own. They prefer perpetual destruction to reconstruction. This class is also logical in its desire to remove the troops from the South; and both know that the best way is to reduce the Army, when the other urgent necessities we have before pointed out will accomplish their object.

Congress, however, is not the body which ought to listen to either class. If we have dwelt at length on this subject of the duties of the troops at the South, it has been because we believed the work of insuring peace and order is not yet accomplished, and that the reasons originally assigned by Congress for sending the troops into the District, are of as much force now as then. We should heartily rejoice if in ten days from this date the military occupation of the South could cease, and our troops be free for other and more agreeable duties. But while there for a specific work, let us not attempt to reduce their numbers till they become inadequate for it. When our annexations are ended, when our *Alabama* claims are settled, when the Southern States are restored to their integrity, when the Indians are safely corralled on their reservations, we can begin to talk of reducing the Army.

THE PAY QUESTION.

ALTHOUGH we have already discussed at length the proposed plan of paying the Army more frequently than at present, yet the lively interest taken in the subject by officers and men throughout the service, as well as its very great intrinsic importance, induces us to revert to it. We do so the more willingly, in order to call attention to a communication on the same topic, published under the head of "Correspondence" in the present number of the JOURNAL.

We have already described how the soldier's lack of money through two or three months is a suggestion and stimulus to desertion. We might have added that the very accumulation of money at pay-day for two or three months previous, furnishes a

soldier opportunities to get aid in desertion which otherwise he would not have. Among the hangers-on of an army a bribe will go a good way, whereas a soldier known to have but little money about him is forced in desertion to depend on his own efforts. Money, too, will procure him disguises, help him to travel by stage and train, and make him friends everywhere.

Again, more frequent pay would decrease drunkenness. Pay-day is now the occasion for a grand spree. The furloughs are properly enough timed so that men can then have money to spend, so as to enjoy them. The consequence is, that, during the week after a bi-monthly or tri-monthly payment, there is usually more drunkenness among the paid troops than during all the time intervening. Where so large a sum of money is at command, liquor can be had in abundance, and, after a long abstinence, is more apt to be drunk in abundance. Where, under ordinary circumstances, there would be no means for hopeless intoxication, the accumulated pay will enable a man to get all the liquor he wants in spite of all preventives.

The change in times of payment would also tend to decrease crime in the Army. Half of the quarrels and brawls which occur, come after pay-day, when men are intoxicated. Officers to whom regular regimental reports are made, usually know what regiments have been recently paid off by merely glancing at the list of men in the guard-houses, at the charges and specifications preferred, and the courts-martial to come off. Full of liquor, the men grow quarrelsome; and many a maiming and a murder may be traced back to pay-day.

The change would result in getting more work and better work out of the men. A soldier with forty or fifty dollars in his pocket, when he has for three months had not a penny, is not in condition to do his previous drudgery with the same gusto or the same fidelity. For two days or a week after pay-day, there is more apt to be a carnival than a campaign. The men can with difficulty be got down to their routine-work. This is perfectly natural. Take men in ordinary civil pursuits: if not paid for their labor during two or four months, and then suddenly the whole amount is counted into their hands, it is a hard matter to settle down to work the next day.

We believe, also, that the change would result in a saving of expense to the Government. Instead of the formidable lists of paymasters now required, only one would be needed for each district; they would furnish the money to the post paymasters, and these latter to the men. Paying is a very simple and systematic affair in the English and French armies. It would get rid, also, of the complicated pay-rolls and grand musters for pay. Some officers appear to think that there would have to be a muster every week or fortnight, as the case might be. This is not so. The formal muster for pay could be held once in two months as now, and the current amounts could be kept in little books prepared for the purpose, and requiring but a trivial entry on each occasion. In England, as we have before noted, the army is paid every day.

In all these ways, we see how the change in the mode of payment would make the soldier's life pleasanter. It would make him content with the service. A little ready money every day or every week goes far to mitigate the annoyances of service. Men could provide themselves with petty luxuries now beyond their reach. Their lives would become more regular, and their money be spent more for little articles of comfort. Instead of the reckless profusion and waste which characterize pay-day and the few days subsequent, and the poverty which prevails in the interval till the next pay-day comes, we should see more economy and a better use of money. It should seem, we repeat, that the proposed change would diminish desertion, decrease drunkenness, check crime, promote sobriety, remove discontent, stop wastefulness, and, by giving the soldier more and cheaper comforts, actually have the same effect as raising his pay. To the Government as well as the soldier it would be an actual saving of money and of trouble, and have a salutary influence both on the troops and on the community in which the corps or garrison may be stationed.

SENATOR GRIMES has done himself credit as a practical legislator by the introduction into the Senate of a bill providing for the employment of our retired naval officers as American consuls abroad, with the pay belonging to their naval rank when on shore duty. We believe that the suggestion of this bill will be found in an article published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, of the 13th of July last, in which attention was called to the fact that we have now a large list of retired naval officers, who, although generally unfitted to discharge their duties at sea, could be sent abroad wherever the interests of the country required, and could discharge consular duties with advantage; particularly at such points as are now occupied by German Jews, and by such native Americans as are of no use either at home or abroad, but who delight in soaring away attached to the American eagle officially, and much to the discredit of the bird. Among the retired commodores, captains and commanders, could be found many well qualified in every respect to perform consular duties, and who would prove particularly useful in such countries as China and Japan, which are usually regarded as semi-civilized, but which, in fact, enjoy a very high degree of civilization, though widely differing from our own or the European standard. They would be able to do good service, too, in all the neighboring republics, whose unsettled condition and partial intercourse with the world make them regard us, at present, with disfavor and prejudice, owing to the character of the representatives we have sent to them.

We have the more hope of Mr. GRIMES' bill from the fact that so many members of Congress have been indulging themselves during the past Summer in the luxury of foreign travel, and have had opportunity to judge for themselves of the character of our foreign appointments. Unfortunately, however, the ordinary round of European travel does not bring them in contact with the worst specimens. The consuls at most of the prominent points in Europe are, as a rule, unexceptionable in personal character at least. The chief fault to be found with many of them is that they are ignorant of every language except their own, and are not fitted to maintain the social position which properly belongs to their office. We have some consuls in Europe who are in every respect an honor to their position, and it is their misfortune that, under the present system, experience and capacity count for little or nothing. One of our most accomplished consuls in Europe, who has the advantage of twenty-five years experience in that position, has been nearly driven from his post of late by the appointment of one of the most obnoxious of the class of foreign Jews to a consular position within his jurisdiction; a position which has been created, apparently, for no other purpose than to make a vacancy, and the establishment of which deprives him of no inconsiderable portion of the fees upon which his living depends. In a letter we have before us from a Government official in this city, the individual appointed to this new position is described as "a little Hungarian Jew, whom it was my fortune to be able to prove an impostor. He claimed to have been wounded during the war, and on that imposition got a letter from President LINCOLN, and was appointed to a clerkship in the New York Custom House. By accident I made the acquaintance of the surgeon who dressed his wound, and who knew him only as an army follower. The doctor requested me to expose him, which I did, and finding it rather warm around here, where there are so many wounded and deserving men, he concluded a foreign consulship would suit him."

These statements we give upon the authority of a responsible correspondent who is prepared to support his assertions with the proper proof. There must surely be something radically wrong in our whole system of consular appointments when it is possible for such men to force themselves into the position of American representatives abroad. It is evident, then, that a reform is needed in this direction, and there are certainly strong arguments in favor of the measure advocated by Mr. GRIMES. Its advantages on the score of economy are at once apparent.

PRACTICAL RETRENCHMENT.

THE general demand of the country is for retrenchment of Government expenses. This demand must be acceded to. But the intelligent business public will demand, in case of any necessity for so doing, that retrenchment itself shall be prudently regulated, carefully graduated, and confined mainly to the lopping off of extravagances. We want no such retrenchment as Mr. Tidwell said was practiced at his boarding house, where the governing power cut off the supplies of butter and beefsteak of the dining room, but retained the piano and lace curtains of the front parlor. There are some, however, who are so zealously anxious to get rid of paying any taxes, that they, in the first flush of their retrenching fury, would, we fear, commit the same error as Mr. Tidwell's landlady.

We notice that the Manufacturers' Convention, recently held at Cleveland, adopted, as a basis of discussion at least, a statement proposed by the Financial Committee of the St. Louis Board of Trade, which proposed to cut down the Army and Navy expenses to the sum per annum which sufficed before the rebellion. Then the Army consisted of about thirty thousand men, and the Navy was scarcely worth mentioning. We think the Army may be reduced safely to about the same proportionate strength it then possessed, as compared with the population and wealth of the country. General Grant recommends forty-five thousand men as the minimum. This is a trifle over one thousand men to each million of inhabitants, perhaps. Certainly we have vastly more need for a respectable military force than we then had. The country has already once seen the folly of maintaining a force so small that it was impossible to garrison our threatened forts—so small that five thousand men could not be found to hold the forts in Charleston harbor, the forts below New Orleans, and near Savannah and Wilmington. These great strategic points ought, hereafter, to be always securely held. The expenses of the War Department were then about forty-six millions per year. We believe the republic has largely increased its wealth and population since 1860. It can afford to pay the same expense in proportion to its wealth for Army purposes that it then could, and to maintain the same number of men in proportion to its entire population.

We believe that Congress may wisely fix a general limit for the peace military establishment. We would suggest the expediency of a law declaring that the Regular Army shall consist of not less than one thousand, nor more than fifteen hundred men for each million of inhabitants, except when war has been regularly declared, and that during war, the regular Army shall not exceed two thousand five hundred men for each million of inhabitants in the republic. For the rest, the Government can always rely upon the Volunteer system. The financial advantages of a fixed and regular ratio are apparent at a glance. The increase and decrease of the Army expenses are a perpetual source of irritation. But the increase and decrease of the Army itself are the very worst things that can be devised against stability, discipline, and efficiency. A fixed, unvarying number of regiments, and of men to each regiment, steadily but slowly increasing as the country grows, would make of our Army something like what it ought to be—a regular force. It is now, so far as its formation and strength are concerned, a most irregular, fluctuating, and uncertain force, liable at any moment to be reduced to a weakness of numbers that is contemptible, or suddenly expanded to a weakness of raw material that destroys all the results of discipline for the time being. What the Army needs is a permanent system and the cessation of tinkering. The system ought, of course, to be the most economical one possible consistent with the highest efficiency, most thorough discipline, and best armament.

The same philosophy applies to the Navy. Before the war, our Navy was ridiculously weak. It cannot again be reduced to that standard, unless the republic shall sell or give away a hundred or two valuable ships, and several thousand costly guns. But the republic needs a Navy henceforth more than ever. Our naval force can have no Volunteer system as a reserve. Ships, guns, and seamen, to a large extent, must be kept on hand. The Navy may be judiciously reduced, but not to its old dimensions, even proportionably. Still, its expenses may be cut down largely. It also needs a better system introduced. The number of seamen employed during peace may be fixed in ratio to the whole population, with more latitude between the maximum and minimum than in the case of the Army. But the St. Louis Finance Committee must not expect us to discard our butter and beefsteak too largely under the plea of retrenchment, particularly while we have unsettled relations with foreign powers, which may, at any moment, require the use of a Navy, and Indian wars and unreconstructed States, requiring the use of an Army.

There are pianos and lace curtains enough, however, in our Washington palaces, which can be spared. The country pays fifteen thousand dollars per year for one man for mileage from Oregon. It costs six times as much for a member of Congress to travel from Iowa to Washington, as it does a private citizen, although the latter may fare sumptuously every day. The Senate has just attempted one great retrenchment, which is, that each member shall have given him, at the public expense, only one hundred and twenty-five dollars worth of stationery per year, but the House has not agreed to this yet. The country pays thousands of dollars per month for the conveying of mail bags full of speeches that few read, books, documents, etc., franked by Congressmen. The whole system is a mere lace curtain, that is of no necessity. We believe there are many hundreds more public officers than there is any need of; and we know that many officers are paid altogether too largely. Custom houses and other public offices are filled up with bangers on, who draw needless salaries, especially just before election, for the mere purpose of buying and selling votes and carrying elections. The passage of Mr. Jenckes' Civil Service bill, or of a similar measure, will cut off most of this extravagance. But the greatest waste is the passage of buncombe appropri-

ation bills, public or private. Every day, some senator or member proposes to add to the pension list, the bounty list, to pay this claim or that claim, to establish this or that mining school, hospital, asylum, railroad, harbor, light house, or almost anything that somebody is interested in, and expects to make money out of, but which is not necessary to the nation. The largest jobs in this line are for gifts, bribes, and bought treaties, for the benefit of Indian agents and traders. We believe that two-thirds of all our Indian expenses are sheer swindles; that the fifteen or twenty millions we annually give away to the Indians is very largely justly characterized by a slight change of the language which Democratic sheets apply to the expenses of the Freedmen's Bureau: "an annual expenditure of millions of the hard-earned money of white men, for the purpose of maintaining lazy and shiftless savages in idleness," only that a very large portion of it sticks to the fingers of dishonest agents and Indian traders. It is too late to alter accomplished facts, but not too late to regret them. Within a brief time, Secretary McCulloch has decreased our national debt over two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, without diminishing the annual interest we have to pay one cent. The absurd policy has been followed of paying off first that part of the debt upon which we pay no interest, but carefully preserving all that upon which we have to pay interest. If, instead of paying off the floating debt, and retiring four millions of currency per month, the same amount of interest-bearing bonds had been paid off, we should have been saved already fifteen or twenty millions of dollars per year in interest, and lessened our necessary taxation just so much. In fact, it is the interest upon our public debt—one hundred and thirty-three millions of dollars per year—that makes our heavy taxes necessary. In twenty years, unless we reduce the principal, we shall have paid as much or more in interest than the original debt amounts to. Every dollar that we do pay, ought to be so paid as to reduce the interest due annually, by that means reducing our taxes. The principal we can easily manage; it is the enormous interest that we groan under. Yet we have already spent over two hundred millions in paying our debt, beside paying three hundred millions in gold for interest, in such an unwise manner as not to reduce our annual burden of interest one particle. The lace curtains and piano expenses have been enormous in comparison with the butter and beefsteak bills of our financial management.—*Detroit Post.*

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS ISSUED FROM THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 28, 1867.

Tuesday, December 24th.

Leave of absence for thirty days it hereby granted Post Chaplain J. W. Elliott.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Randolph Norwood, Second U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 227, November 21, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended twenty days.

The order of December 2, 1867, assigning Second Lieutenant Oliver W. Longan, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, to duty in this office until further orders, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major Lyman M. Kellogg, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, will at once repair to New York City, and report for examination to Brevet Major-General Cooke, president of the Retiring Board, convened by Special Orders No. 449, September 21, 1867, from this office.

Permission to delay compliance with so much of Special Orders No. 511, December 4, 1867, from this office, as directed him to proceed, without delay, to join his regiment in the Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby granted Captain Edwin Pollock, Ninth U. S. Infantry, until January 15, 1868.

Permission to delay his departure for San Francisco, California, until the sailing from New York of the steamer February 1, 1868, is hereby granted Captain Charles A. Whittier, Thirty-second U. S. Infantry.

Thursday, December 26th.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant F. B. Marshall, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect December 21st, 1867, on condition that he receive no final payments, until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

Private Frederick O. Durant, alias Charles Reed, Battery I, First U. S. Artillery, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under paragraph 1371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

Private James H. Walraven, Company K, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. This soldier is entitled to pay, etc., only under Paragraph 1371, Revised U. S. Army Regulations of 1863.

Special Orders No. 524, paragraph 10, of December, 19, 1867, from this office, directing the dishonorable discharge of Private James Morrow, Company F, Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, is so amended to read: Jacob Morrow.

The unexecuted portion of the confinement pursuant to a sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 19, of April 26, 1866, from Headquarters Department of Arkansas, directing Privates Thompson D. Shaw and William Harris, Company D, Third U. S. Cavalry, Privates James Burns and George Holmes, Company D, Third Battalion, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, to be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances, and to be confined at hard labor for five years in the military prison at Columbus, Ohio, is hereby remitted. They will be discharged in accordance with the terms of their sentence.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Beach, Captain Fourth U. S. Artillery,

is hereby detailed for duty as a member of the Examining Board convened in this city by Special Orders No. 177, April 8, 1867, from this office, vice Brevet Brigadier-General Joseph Roberts, Lieutenant-Colonel, Fourth U. S. Artillery hereby relieved.

Friday, December 27th.

Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant H. H. C. Dunwoody, Fourth U. S. Artillery.

Paragraph 3, Special Orders No. 524, December 19, 1867, from this office, relieving Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Freedley, captain Third U. S. Infantry, from recruiting service, and directing him to await further orders, is hereby revoked.

Captain George W. Dost, Fourth U. S. Infantry, is hereby granted permission to delay joining his regiment for two months from January 1, 1868.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant William H. Male, Thirty-sixth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 237, December 3, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended ten days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major J. H. Stone, captain Twenty-fourth Regiment (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby mustered out and honorably discharged the service of the United States, to date January 1, 1868, on account of his services being no longer required. He will receive no final payments, until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the Government.

Captain Isaac D'Isay, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, is hereby granted permission to delay joining his regiment until April 1, 1868.

Private Francis Morrison, general service U. S. Army, is hereby assigned to Company C, First U. S. Infantry, and will be forwarded to that company at New Orleans, Louisiana, at the first favorable opportunity. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Private Jesse Palson, Company E, Thirty-seventh regiment U. S. Infantry, now in confinement at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

The extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant A. H. Wands, Thirty-sixth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 144, December 12, 1867, from Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended six months.

Brevet Colonel Samuel R. Hamill, captain and assistant quartermaster of Volunteers, will repair to this city for the purpose of settling his accounts with the Government. He is authorized to retain his chief clerk to assist him therewith.

Saturday, December 28th.

Leave of absence for twenty days is hereby granted Brevet Captain L. B. Norton, second lieutenant Thirtieth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 91, December 3, 1867, from Headquarters Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, as assigned Second Lieutenant S. R. Stafford, of that regiment, to Company H, is hereby confirmed.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Loyd Wheaton, captain, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 193, November 27, 1867, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby extended thirty days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant George W. Graffam, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 205, December 13, 1867, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

The leave of absence, on surgeon's certificate of disability, granted Brevet Captain F. C. Von Schirach, First Lieutenant Forty-third U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), in Special Orders No. 176, November 9, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Lakes, is hereby extended ten days.

By direction of the Secretary of War Regimental Orders No. 3, May 22, 1867, from Headquarters Seventh U. S. Cavalry, assigning Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Myers, captain Seventh U. S. Cavalry, to Company E, of that regiment is hereby confirmed.

The superintendent general recruiting service, will prepare and forward, under proper charge, to Fort Monroe, Virginia, a detachment of eighteen recruits, for assignment to Company G, First U. S. Artillery. The recruits will be of the class referred to in the fourth clause of paragraph 1, General Orders No. 99, Adjutant General's office, November 13, 1867. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Private Charles Jay, Company F, Twenty-fourth Regiment U. S. Infantry, now supposed to be serving at Vicksburg, Mississippi, will be discharged the service of the United States, upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Penrose, captain and commissary of subsistence, will proceed to Richmond, Virginia, and report to the commanding general First Military District, to relieve Brevet Major W. A. Elderkin, captain and commissary of subsistence, and assume the duties heretofore performed by him.

THE following circular was issued from the War Department on the 21st instant: The bureau of the War Department will be closed on Christmas and New Year's days. During the intervening week the office hours will be from nine a. m. to twelve m., and only one half the number of clerks employed will be required to be present at those hours, so that each individual may have one half the number of days entire holiday between Christmas and New Year's.

COMPANY E, First U. S. Infantry, has been ordered to proceed from Amite, La., to New Orleans, La., reporting to the commanding officer of the post of New Orleans. Company G, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, has been ordered to proceed from Baton Rouge, La., to New Iberia, La., and take post at that place.

ARMY PERSONAL.

LIEUTENANT E. P. Doherty, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, is judge-advocate of a General Court-martial now in session at Montgomery, Ala.

ASSISTANT Surgeon Carlos Carvallo, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty at Jackson Barracks, La., and ordered to proceed to Buffalo Springs, Texas, and report to the commanding officer for duty at that place.

SECOND Lieutenant Isaac N. Walter, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, has been ordered to report for duty to the commanding officer, Company G, of that regiment, in New Orleans, waiting approval by the War Department, of assigning Lieutenant Walter to said company.

LIEUTENANT H. Sweeney, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, with a detachment of twenty men of the Fifteenth Infantry, has been ordered to Opelika, Ala., on the West Point, Ga., and Montgomery, Ala., Railroad, sixty-six miles from the latter place.

A MILITARY Commission was ordered to convene at Headquarters Fourth Military District, at 10 o'clock A. M., on the 16th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Anthony Foster, citizen, and such other prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the commission: Brevet Major-General Adelbert Ames, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Colonel E. Swift, surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major John Power, captain Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major Joseph G. Crane, commissary of subsistence U. S. Army; Brevet Major John Tyler, first lieutenant Forty-third U. S. Infantry; Brevet Colonel Henry Goodfellow, judge-advocate U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

THE following is a list of officers at the post of Mobile, Ala., December 20, 1867: Brevet Brigadier-General O. L. Shepherd, colonel Fifteenth Infantry, commanding; First Lieutenant P. Blair, Fifteenth Infantry, regimental quartermaster and acting commissary subsistence; Second Lieutenant William J. Sartle, Fifteenth Infantry, regimental and post adjutant; Brevet Major F. W. Coleman, captain Fifteenth Infantry, commanding Company I; Captain J. P. Brown, Fifteenth Infantry, commanding Company G; First Lieutenant A. S. Bennett, Fifteenth Infantry, commanding Company K; Second Lieutenant R. E. Bradford, Fifteenth Infantry, commanding Company A; First Lieutenant M. P. Buffum, Fifteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant J. A. Young, Fifteenth Infantry, detached service; Second Lieutenant H. Sweeney, Fifteenth Infantry, unassigned; Second Lieutenant Henshaw, Fifteenth Infantry, unassigned; Second Lieutenant Taylor, Fifteenth Infantry, unassigned.

THE following is a transcript from officers' register at Headquarters, Fifth Military District, New Orleans, La., for the week ending December 22, 1867: December 16, Henry Norton, first lieutenant Seventeenth U. S. Infantry; William H. Sterling, captain First U. S. Infantry. December 17th, Thomas H. Reeves, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel; Allured Larke, second lieutenant Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry. December 18th, H. S. Winchester, second lieutenant Sixth U. S. Cavalry; Lewis Warrington, second lieutenant Fourth U. S. Cavalry; W. C. Bayless, second lieutenant Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Clarence Mauck, captain Fourth U. S. Cavalry, brevet major; W. R. Shafter, lieutenant-colonel Forty-first U. S. Infantry, brevet colonel; Justinian Alman, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Cavalry. December 19th, Harvey E. Brown, assistant surgeon U. S. Army, brevet major. December 20th, S. Carnecross, first lieutenant Twentieth U. S. Infantry; Isaac N. Walter, second lieutenant Sixth U. S. Cavalry; S. D. De Russey, captain First U. S. Infantry; H. M. Kendall, second lieutenant Sixth U. S. Cavalry.

THE following alterations have taken place at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, during the week ending December 31st, in compliance with General Orders No. 28, from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, dated New York City, December 9, 1867, viz.: Officers reported from recruiting rendezvous—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. Hull, captain Eighteenth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. Edwards, captain Third Artillery; Brevet Major W. Dickenson, captain U. S. A. (retired); Brevet Major J. H. Butler, captain Forty-second Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps); Brevet Major H. Jewett, captain Fifteenth Infantry; Brevet Major J. H. Donovan, captain Forty-fourth Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps); Brevet Major J. D. Ogilby, captain Thirty-third Infantry; Brevet Major T. K. Gibbs, first lieutenant First Artillery; Captain J. McIntosh, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant S. A. Porter, Forty-fourth Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps). Officers ordered to report to their respective regiments after January 1, 1868, pursuant to above order, viz.: Brevet Brigadier-General J. M. Robertson, captain Second Artillery; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. Hull, captain Eighteenth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. Edwards, captain Third Artillery; Major Z. Bliss, Thirty-ninth Infantry; Brevet Major W. Dickenson, captain U. S. A. (retired); Brevet Major J. H. Butler, captain Forty-second Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps); Brevet Major H. Jewett, captain Fifteenth Infantry; Brevet Major J. H. Donovan, captain Forty-fourth Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps); Captain A. H. Bainbridge, Fourteenth Infantry; Captain J. H. Gageby, Thirty-seventh Infantry; H. C. Morgan, Thirtieth Infantry; W. Falck, Second Infantry; Captain R. L. Burnett, Twenty-first Infantry; Captain M. A. Cochran, Sixteenth Infantry; Brevet Major J. Kelliher, first lieutenant Forty-second Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps); Captain J. E. Wilson, first lieutenant Second Artillery; First Lieutenant S. A. Porter, Forty-fourth Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps). The following detachments of recruits left depot in compliance with instructions from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York City: Thirty-one men for Company F, Fourth Artillery; eight men for Company A, Fifth Artillery, and two men for Company C, Fifth Artillery. Left depot December 28, 1867, en route to Fort Monroe, Virginia, under the command of First Lieutenant H. R. Jones, Forty-third Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps).

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 23.—Lieutenant-Commander William Whitehead, Lieutenant Charles V. Gridley, Masters George F. E. Wilde, Charles W. Kennedy, Midshipmen William T. Swinburne, Samuel F. Clark, Franklin Hanford, Abraham E. H. Lillie, Willis Swift, Henry Wheeler, Passed Assistant Paymaster Henry M. Meade, Second Assistant Engineers J. W. Gardner, E. T. Philippi and B. C. Gowing to duty on board the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander Alfred Hopkins, Lieutenants Purnell F. Harrington, Dennis W. Mullan, Ensigns David N. Bell, Timothy A. Lyons, Midshipmen William J. Moore, Joseph N. Hemphill, L. V. House, Abiel B. Carter, Benjamin F. Richards and Edward Woodman, to duty on board the *De Soto*.

Surgeon J. H. Clark, and Carpenter Amos Chick, to duty on board the receiving ship *Fandalia*.

Carpenter Jonas Dibble, to duty on board the receiving ship *Polomac*.

Carpenter Ebenezer Thompson, to duty on board the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

DECEMBER 24.—Passed Assistant Paymaster D. P. Batione, to duty on board the store ship *Purveyor*.

First Assistant Engineer Sidney Albert, and Boatswain Thomas Bennett, to duty on board the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

DECEMBER 24.—Captain Thomas G. Patterson, to duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 15th inst.

Commander Oscar C. Badger, to duty as equipment officer at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Lieutenant-Commander James Weidman, to duty on board the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

Assistant Surgeon James N. Hyde, to duty at the Naval Hospital, Washington.

Second Assistant Engineer William L. Nicoll, to duty on board the *De Soto*.

DECEMBER 27.—Paymaster George Cochran, to duty on board the receiving ship *Polomac*.

Passed Assistant Paymaster E. N. Whitehouse, and Boatswain John K. Bartlett, to duty on board the *Dale*.

Boatswain John A. Selmer, to duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 23.—Commander James S. Thornton, from duty at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to command the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander Roderick S. McCook, from duty at the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

Surgeon Charles H. Burbank, from duty on board the receiving ship *Fandalia*, and ordered to the *Kearsarge*.

DECEMBER 24.—Captain F. A. Parker, from duty as a member of the Examining Board at Washington, and placed on waiting orders.

DECEMBER 25.—Captain George B. Balch, from duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 15th inst., and ordered to hold himself in readiness for the command of the flagship of the North Atlantic Squadron.

Midshipman Seth M. Ackley, from duty on board the *Huron*, and granted sick leave of absence.

DECEMBER 27.—Paymaster James D. Murray, from duty on board the receiving ship *Polomac*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Assistant Paymaster J. B. Redfield, from duty on board the *Dale*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Boatswain Isaac T. Choate, from duty on board the *Dale*, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain George Smith, from duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and placed on waiting orders.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

DECEMBER 26.—Second Assistant Engineer Charles E. Emery.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 23.—Acting Third Assistant Engineers Stephen Rand and W. S. Jarboe, to duty on board the *Kearsarge* on the 15th inst.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 23.—Acting Master William Budd, from duty on board the *De Soto*, and ordered to command the ship *Purveyor*.

Acting Master T. N. Meyer, Acting Ensigns David A. Hall and John Barrett, from duty on board the *De Soto*, and ordered to the *Purveyor*.

Mates H. C. Fuller, J. L. Blauvelt and T. W. Jones, from duty on board the *De Soto*, and ordered to the receiving ship *Vermont*.

DECEMBER 24.—Acting Ensign R. W. Laine, from duty on board the *Saranac*, and ordered to the receiving ship *Vermont*.

DECEMBER 25.—Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon D. C. Burleigh, from duty at the Naval Hospital, Washington, D. C., and ordered to the flagship *Purveyor*.

PLACED ON WAITING ORDERS.

DECEMBER 26.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Edward T. T. Marsh.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

THE following Volunteer naval officers have been granted honorable discharges since last report:

Acting Master F. A. O'Connor, from December 27th.

Acting Ensigns, John D. Thomas, from December 21st, and F. G. E. Lennan, from December 28th.

Acting Chief Engineer J. M. Adams, from December 28th.

Acting First Assistant Engineer John Loyd, from December 27th.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Harvey Clap, from December 23d.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, for the week ending December 28, 1867:

Edward Frankfort, first-class fireman, December 24th, U. S. steamer *De Soto*, Tampa Bay, Fla.

John Lambert, seaman, December 7th, U. S. steamer *Shawmut*.

Albert H. O. Cooke, landsman, December 7th, U. S. steamer *Shawmut*.

Charles Ryan, seaman, December 7th, U. S. steamer *Shawmut*.

George Williams, coal-heaver, December 17th, U. S. steamer *Susquehanna*.

Wm. Rock, first-class fireman, December 23d, U. S. steamer *Academy*, Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

John D. Fletcher, gunner, November 24th, Phippsburg, Me.

Luther Manson, carpenter, September 20th, Kittery, Me.

James H. Nash, acting third assistant engineer, November 23d, U. S. steamer *Tantic*, Tampico River, Mex.

George W. Elliott, carpenter, December 10th, Hampton, Va.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST OFFICE.

THE following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the given dates. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

DECEMBER 28TH.

ARMY.

Hazen, Geo. W. B. Gardner, J. L., Brevet Brig-Gen.

Edridge, J. C. Putney, Alonzo W.

Ferris, Samuel, Brevet Major, 30th S. Cavalry.

Infantry. Sensimore, Franz, Co. M., 3d U. S. Cavalry.

Fitzsimmons, Philip, late Asst. Surgeon, 160th N. Y. Vol.

Gardner, A. B., Lieut., 9th Inf.

Haymond, H., Captain.

Hopper, Geo., Lieutenant.

Leefe, J. G., Lieutenant.

Roberts, Chas. H., Lieutenant.

Ross, Andrew, Lieutenant.

JANUARY 1st.

Bispop, D. E., late Additional Paymaster.

Casey, Silas, Brevet Maj-Gen.

Flieger, W. H., Lieutenant.

Fairchild, E. E., Lieutenant.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—The officers and members of this regiment propose to give three concerts during the coming season, the first of which will come off about the 18th inst. The concerts will be conducted on a new plan, for the purpose of making them more company than regimental affairs, and to permit the profits to go to the former instead of to the regimental fund, as has been the case hitherto.

For this purpose, each company treasurer receives two hundred tickets, admitting a gentleman and ladies, for which he pays to the regiment \$50 to provide for the necessary expenses of the concert. These tickets he distributes among the members of his company at \$1 each, the \$150 profit going to the company fund. By this arrangement, more interest is taken in the concert, and the purchasers of tickets feel that their money is coming back to them more immediately than if it went into the regimental treasury. The project has met with great favor throughout the regiment, as it provides the companies with a fund for social enjoyment, such as suppers, etc., which they have always required, without imposing any assessment or depleting their treasury, it will unquestionably result in making the approaching concerts a marked success.

COMPANY F, FIFTH REGIMENT.—The thirty-first ball of this company took place on Thursday evening, the 26th ult., at the New York Casino, corner of Houston and Mott streets. Company F, which is commanded by Captain L. G. Theo. Bruer, the senior captain of the regiment, was formerly known as the Jefferson Greasers, and is one of the oldest organizations in the division. Our readers will doubtless remember that Captain Bruer was, not long ago, elected major of the Fifth, but declined the promotion. The ball of this company was a very successful one, and everything passed off pleasantly under the charge of Lieutenants Geisler and Ulrick and a committee of the company. The officers of the regiment were well represented, among whom were Colonel Meyer, Lieutenant-Colonel Hillenbrandt, Major Seebach, Captains Hamann and Lausen, ex-captain Holsworth, and Lieutenant Wollen Kamp. Major Schultz, of the First Cavalry, formerly commissary of this regiment, was also present; Brigadier-General Burger was also expected, but had not arrived when our reporter left. As this company has always been noted for the harmony which exists among its members it is not surprising that their ball was in every respect a sociable and enjoyable affair.

COMPANY K, ELEVENTH REGIMENT.—The ninth annual ball of this organization came off at the National Assembly Rooms, on Thursday evening, the 26th instant, and was a complete success. This company is one of the youngest and largest in the Eleventh regiment, its present prosperous condition being due to the exertions of its former commander, Captain Leebach, now major of the Fifth regiment, who was among the guests of the evening. The greater part of the entertainment consisted in dancing; but the Freimann-erchor Glee Club, which was present, sang several German songs, which received much applause from those present. The various organizations of the First division were well represented, and among them Colonel Lux, Lieutenant-Colonel Unbekant, Captains Bochar, Stilling, and Heupner, and Lieutenants Hodzle and Wicks. The room is a fine large one, and, barring its location, is admirably suited for military balls.

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—The members of this regiment intend giving a grand promenade concert on Thursday evening, the 9th inst., at their armory in Fourth street, Brooklyn, E. D. The promenade concerts of this regiment have always been very fine affairs, and an effort will be made to make the concert on next Thursday superior to any of its predecessors.

SEVENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.—The third annual ball of the veteran association of the Seventy-ninth regiment will be given at the New York Assembly Rooms, Broadway, corner of Twenty-eighth street, on Thursday evening, January 9, 1868.

LINDSAY BLUES.—The fifteenth annual ball of this association will be given at Irving Hall on Wednesday evening, January 15th.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—The second promenade concert will be given at the State arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Saturday evening, the 4th instant. The first of this series of concerts was a grand success, and was such an enjoyable affair that a large attendance is expected Saturday night.

IMPRISONMENT OF DELINQUENTS.—The constitutionality of that portion of the code which authorizes the imprisonment of a member of the National Guard who refuses, or neglects, to pay a fine imposed upon him by a court-martial, has recently been affirmed by Judge Gilbert, of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn. The decision was on a writ of *habeas corpus* in the case of C. S. Wybrew, a member of the Fifty-sixth regiment, who had been imprisoned for non-payment of a fine. The judge decided that the proceedings of the court-martial in the case were legal, and that the appellant was therefore justly imprisoned. This decision is the more important because there have not been wanting many persons who have questioned the power of a court-martial to deprive a citizen of his liberty. At one time the law was so worded that it was impossible to get the sheriff or keeper of a jail to receive or hold a person because he did not pay a fine incurred for neglect of military duty, and it was therefore found necessary to amend the law in this particular. It is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of a healthy military organization that legally-constituted courts-martial should be empowered to enforce obedience to their decrees, even if it becomes necessary to resort to imprisonment to effect the purpose.

Every member of the National Guard must remember that he volunteered to serve the State for seven years, and that it is his own fault if he did not fully inform himself of what he would be required to do before he signed his name to the company roll.

Copies of the code are plenty, and if a man enlists without knowing what he agrees to do he has nobody to blame but himself.

BREECH-LOADERS FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD.—Although we have noticed the reports which have been going about to the effect that the Board appointed for the examination of breech-loading arms for the National Guard had reported in favor of the Roberts gun, we were unable to trace them to any reliable source, and therefore did not repeat them. Such, however, is the decision of the board as telegraphed to Governor Fenton by its recorder. The full official report has not yet been forwarded, and indeed has not, so far as we can learn, yet been prepared. Considerable time must necessarily elapse before any regiments will receive new arms, because it will be necessary to get an appropriation from the Legislature for the purpose after the report is handed in, and of late it has been rather a hard matter to obtain from that body the money actually required for the current expenses of the National Guard establishment. It

is to be hoped that very few members of the State Assembly or Senate agree with the Supervisors of Oswego County in their estimate of the value of our citizen soldiery.

STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this organization will be held in Albany on the 21st and 22d inst. The present officers of this association are: President, Brigadier-General Lloyd Aspinwall; first Vice-President, Colonel C. H. Thompson; second Vice-President, Colonel John C. Bennett; third Vice-President, Colonel George Beach; fourth Vice-President, Brigadier-General E. A. Brown; Treasurer, Captain Henry Heath; Recording Secretary, Major F. A. Mason; Corresponding Secretary, Colonel A. Wagstaff, Jr.; Chaplain, Rev. C. E. Hewes.

COMPETITIVE DRILLS.—We publish elsewhere in this issue a challenge to a competitive drill from Captain B. F. Finan, of the Ninth Massachusetts Volunteer Militia. Captain Finan is a veteran of the last war, and has the honor to command a company which has on the occasion of two yearly contests been pronounced by competent judges the champion company of his regiment. This is indeed an honor, and we are glad to see that the captain and his men are not disposed to rest on their laurels. It is to be hoped that one or more Massachusetts companies will accept the proffered challenge, for our reports of the doings of the Militia of that State show that there have already been competitive drills in three or more of the military organizations of "the Commonwealth." It may be questioned whether it is advisable to name any stake as a prize to the successful competitor beyond a champion flag, which, in our judgment, is the best incentive to perfection in military exercises; but still we are very glad that Company F, of the Ninth regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, have entered the field, and we yet hope to witness a competitive drill between the champion companies of several States, New York and Massachusetts among the number.

NINTH REGIMENT.—Colonel J. H. Wilcox, of this regiment, on New Year's Day received from the officers a magnificent photographic album containing the pictures of all the commissioned officers of the regiment. The album, which was designed and made by Mr. R. A. Lewis, is a very elegant affair, and is gotten up in a most tasty and elaborate style, the cover being particularly beautiful. Colonel Wilcox has proved a very efficient regimental commander, and is well worthy of the mark of esteem which has been presented to him.

COMPANY J, SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT.—The annual ball of this company was held at the armory over Essex Market on New Year's eve, the 31st ult. The old year expired and the new was ushered in by this company, of the Sixty-ninth, with true Hibernian jollity.

DRUM CORPS OF THE FIFTH.—The seventh annual ball of the drum corps of the Fifth regiment, Drum-Major C. Berchet, came off at the regimental armory in Hester street on New Year's night. We are sorry that that particular night was chosen for the entertainment, as many were unable to attend who would not willingly have been absent on any other night than the first of the year. However, those who were present had as jolly a time as could be desired. The drum corps of the Fifth is one of the institutions of the First division, for they never parade without attracting considerable attention, especially when the drums and bugles play together.

The armory on this occasion looked remarkably well, as it is the first time we have seen it since the completion of the recent improvements. The black walnut musket racks are a decided improvement, and some of the company roll-boards are extremely handsome. The portion of the racks set apart for the drums and bugles is enclosed with plate glass, and is worthy of particular notice.

It is not, however, our purpose at the present time to give an elaborate description of the room as it appeared New Year's night. Suffice it to say that the seventh ball of the drum corps was as great a success as any of its predecessors, and was well attended. If any of our readers have not attended one of these entertainments, we advise them to obtain tickets for the next one, whenever they hear one is to be given.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.—Colonel John Ward, commanding this regiment, has issued the following order: Division drills at the regimental armory, are hereby ordered in this command, as follows: Companies A and C, on Monday evening, January 6th; Companies G and H, on Tuesday evening, January 7th; Companies F and K, on Wednesday evening, January 8th; Companies D and I, on Thursday evening, January 9th; and Companies B and E, on Friday evening, January 10th. Line will be formed at 8 p. m. precisely. A field officer will conduct these drills.

Battalion drills are ordered in this command as follows: Companies C, D, H, I and F with assembly, in fatigue uniform, with leggings, at the State Arsenal, corner Seventh avenue and Thirty-fifth street, on Thursday evening, January 16th. Companies B, K, A, G and E will assemble, as above, on Friday evening, January 17th. Line on each occasion will be formed at 8 o'clock p. m. First sergeants call at 7:45 o'clock p. m. Field and staff will report to the colonel; non-commissioned staff and the field music of the respective companies, to the adjutant, fifteen minutes before the time of formation. Any member appearing without leggings will be reported as absent, and not allowed to fall in.

Commandants of companies will prepare at once, and send in to these headquarters a list of the names of expelled and delinquent members which they have sent in to Douglas Taylor, Commissioner of Juries, No. 3 Chambers street, during the past year, in compliance with General Orders No. 3, Series of 1867, from these headquarters. They will continue to send the names and addresses of all expelled and delinquent members to the commissioner, as previously ordered.

SECOND BRIGADE.—Brigadier-General Louis Burger, commanding this brigade, was presented on New Year's Day by the members of his staff with an elegant gold-embroidered general's belt and an *epée*. The presentation was made by Major Frolich, chief of the brigade staff, in a very neat speech. Although completely surprised by the present, General Burger was not so taken aback as to be unable to reply in a happy and effective manner.

General Burger has won for himself a high reputation as a brigade commander, and we congratulate him on his New Year's present. It is worthy of note in this connection that the reports of this brigade are always among the first if not the first received at division headquarters.

COMPANY G, NINTH REGIMENT.—An election for civil officers of this company for the ensuing year took place at the armory, in Twenty-sixth street, on Saturday evening, December 21st, which resulted in electing Joseph R. Carr, Jr., president, vice J. F. J. Gunning, time expiring, and Joseph A. Joel vice-president, vice J. R. Carr, elected president; Dyer Brainard treasurer, and Wm. W. Traphagen secretary. Joseph A. Joel, fourth sergeant and right general guide of the regiment, has been promoted to second sergeant of this company, being the ranking sergeant according to date of warrant.

THE SUPERVISORS AND THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The report of the Law committee of the supervisors of Kings County, on the resolutions passed by the supervisors of Oswego County, contains so much of interest to the National Guard at large that we subjoin it entire:

To the Board of Supervisors of Kings County:

The Law Committee of the Board to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions of the Board of Supervisors of Oswego County dated December 2, 1867, as follows:

IN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, OSWEGO COUNTY, }
MEXICO, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1867. }

Mr. Elliott offered the following and moved its adoption: *Whereas*, In the time of peace we can perceive no necessity for maintaining any military organization in the "rural districts" of the State, and

Whereas, The enormous expense and consequent increased taxation created by the military department in this county, both by reason of maintaining a large and unnecessary number of armories and officers in charge thereof, and by reason of exempting hundreds of thousands of dollars of property from taxation within this county, have so increased the otherwise heavy burden borne by the tax payers, that endurance has become intolerable and insufferable; and *Whereas*, The entire population of this county have become thoroughly disgusted with the provisions of the present military system in this State, excepting only a few who are sustained and fed by the unclean drippings of this unmitigated public nuisance; now, therefore,

Resolved, That the representatives of this county in the Legislature of this State are hereby earnestly requested to procure the immediate repeal of chapter 477, of the laws of 1862, and the several acts supplemental thereto and amendatory thereof, known as the Military Code.

Resolved, That a copy of the above preamble and resolutions be delivered to each member and senator elect from this county.

Respectfully report, That they have carefully considered the same, with all the county property required of so important a document from a large and respectable county, and feel constrained to differ from the Oswego Board, both in the statements in their preamble and as to the resolutions appended thereto. As to the first clause and preamble, stating that "in time of peace we can perceive no necessity for maintaining any military organization in the rural districts of the State," your committee are surprised at such doctrine from a frontier county like Oswego, with a large commercial city, exposed to intrusion from any change of policy of the government on the other side of Lake Ontario.

We had supposed, in the language of Washington, "to be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace," and we had hoped that the severe and cruel lessons of the past seven years would not be soon disregarded.

In April and May, 1861, the Capitol at Washington was saved from capture and destruction by the few disciplined regiments of the National Guard, who hurried on, as minute men, at the first call for their services, again, in 1863, the capital of Pennsylvania was saved by the National Guard of New York. At all times, from the commencement to the end of the Rebellion, the ranks of the Army of the Union were filled and officers furnished from the organized and disciplined corps of the National Guard. If we had all acted under the declaration of the Oswego Board, that in time of peace there was no necessity of maintaining any Militia organization, the beginning of the Rebellion would have witnessed the Confederate forces overrunning the North after the seizure of Washington and the holding of Baltimore. We do not know the precise facts of the matters involved in the second preamble, nor what the Oswego Board deem an enormous expense for armories and officers in charge thereof; but at the legal charges allowed by the military code thereof, we are not aware that they can amount to any very large sum.

The exemption from taxation we believed to be a matter well worthy of consideration. As to the members of the National Guard so exempted from taxation in the county of Oswego, the Oswego Board are not definite; but they state "hundreds of thousands of dollars are so exempted." At \$500 per man, this would give 200 men for \$100,000 of property exempted.

In regard to the principle of exemption from taxation, your committee do not believe it is just and proper in itself, nor do they believe it is beneficial to the National Guard.

For the reasons that while purporting to be given as compensation for enlistment and service, a large proportion of the best members of the National Guard receive no advantage whatever; and those needing compensation must receive none of it. Your committee are satisfied from their own experience that those members of the National Guard who enlist or adhere to it, for the sake of exemption from taxation, are of little value or importance as soldiers.

The useful and true members of the National Guard serve for nobler and higher reasons.

We believe the exemption from taxation might be repealed without any injury to the organization, and that some other provisions might be substituted which would more equally and justly benefit the National Guard.

As to the third preamble that "the entire population of this county have become thoroughly disgusted with the provisions of the present military system of this State, excepting only a few who are sustained and fed by the unclean drippings of this unmitigated public nuisance—"

We might be excused for supposing that in this clause the zeal of the Oswego Board had outstripped discretion.

For the reasons obvious to all, the military system of this State is not "an unmitigated public nuisance," nor can legal compensation to public officers be well treated as "unclean drippings."

Whether the entire population of Oswego county are disgusted, as stated, we must take the statement of the Oswego Board, especially as it is the official exposition under oath of the county officers. If such be the case we hope the feeling will be confined to Oswego county.

We are glad to have reason to state that the County of Kings is proud of its National Guard, and of its services, and does not approve of any movement calculated to disband it or impair its efficiency.

Your committee do not think the military code of this State is perfect, and they will cordially recommend any proper amendment for the purpose of removing its imperfections or adding to its usefulness.

Your committee deem it not out of place to present in this connection some authorities in favor of an available and disciplined National Guard.

The Constitution of the United States says: "A well-regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

The constitution of the State says: "The Militia of the State shall at all times hereafter be armed and disciplined and in readiness for service."

George Washington said, in his message to Congress, August 7, 1789:

"I mean some uniform and effective system for the Militia of the United States. It is unnecessary to offer arguments in support of a measure on which the honor, safety, and well-being of our country so evidently depend."

"But it may not be amiss to observe, that I am particularly anxious it should receive as early attention as circumstances will admit because it is now in our power to avail ourselves of the military knowledge disseminated throughout the several States, by means of the many well-instructed officers and soldiers of the late Army—a resource which is daily diminishing by deaths or other causes."

"To suffer this peculiar advantage to pass away unimproved would be to neglect an opportunity which will never again occur, unless, unfortunately, we should again be involved in a long and arduous war."

In his speech to Congress, January 8, 1790:

"Among the many interesting objects which will engage your attention, that of providing for the common defence will merit particular regard."

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

"A free people ought not only to be armed but disciplined; to which end a uniform and well-digested plan is requisite."

In his speech to Congress, December 3, 1793:

"The United States ought not to indulge a persuasion that contrary to the order of human events, they will forever keep at a distance those painful appeals to arms with which the history of every other nation abounds."

"There is a rank due to the United States among nations which will be withheld if not lost, by the reputation of weakness."

"If we desire to avoid insult we must be able to repel it—if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity—it must be known that we are at all times ready for war."

"The Militia ought to possess a pride in being the depository of

the force of the Republic, and may be trained to a degree of energy equal to every military exigency of the United States."

In his speech to Congress, November 19, 1794:

"The devising and establishing of a well-regulated Militia would be a genuine source of Legislative honor, and a perfect title to public gratitude. I therefore entertain a hope that the present session will not pass without carrying to its full energy the power of organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and thus providing in the language of the Constitution for calling them forth to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions."

In his speech to Congress, December 8, 1795:

"With the review of our Army establishment is naturally connected that of the Militia. It will merit inquiry what imperfections in the existing plan further experience may have unfolded. The subject is of so much moment in my estimation as to excite a constant solicitude that the consideration of it may be renewed till the greatest attainable perfection shall be accomplished."

"Time is wearing away some advantages for forwarding the object—while none better deserves the persevering attention of the public councils."

In his speech to Congress, December 7, 1796:

"My solicitude to see the Militia of the United States placed on an efficient establishment has been so often and so ardently expressed that I shall but barely recall the subject to your view on the present occasion."

Your committee believe in the views and opinions stated so often and urgently in those official communications with Congress; not only with an abiding faith in the wisdom and patriotism of Washington, but equally so from their own judgment and experience, and they hope that some occasion for economy may be found other than in an immediate repeal of the Military Code of the State, as proposed by the Oswego Board.

The enormous expenditures of the State during the past Rebellion for recruiting were in a great degree caused by the absence of proper military feeling on the part of our citizens, very much superinduced by such doctrines as declared in the preamble of the Oswego Board. While Kings county can proudly point to her Fourteenth regiment of National Guards, volunteering and serving in the Army of the Potomac during the three years of the war, and now returning to home service, good and useful citizens, and a regiment of veteran soldiers, Kings county cannot afford to disband them, or to recommend any State legislation producing that result.

Your committee recommend that this board do not concur with the preamble and resolutions of the Oswego Board, except in repealing the laws exempting property from taxation, on account of service in the National Guard, and they offer the resolutions annexed, all of which is respectfully submitted. December 14, 1867.

A CHALLENGE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

Accepting the columns of your Journal as the medium of all military correspondence, I ask the insertion of the following:

The undersigned, in behalf of his command, invites a competitive drill of the several military companies of this commonwealth, for the championship of the State; the entrance fee to be in proportion to the number of contestants; the aggregate to be two hundred dollars, one hundred of which shall go to the purchase of a champion flag, to be presented to the successful company at the conclusion of the drill. The company receiving the flag to be open to challenge from other companies; but if any company shall retain the champion flag for three successive years, then said flag shall become their absolute property. If these propositions do not meet with response within two weeks, then the following challenge to take effect:

ARMORY CO. I, NINTH REGIMENT, M. V. M., }
BOSTON, December 28, 1867. }

We hereby challenge any company in the military service of the commonwealth for one hundred dollars a side and the championship of the State, the winning company to be entitled to carry the champion flag. The drill to be according to Upton's Tactics, and to take place on Boston Common on the last Wednesday in May, 1868. This challenge to remain open two months from this date. If not accepted within that time, we claim the championship of the State. In behalf of Company I, Ninth regiment, M. V. M.

B. F. FINAN, Captain, No. 6 Tremont st.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD, S. N. Y.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, }
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Dec. 30, 1867. }

The following named officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, S. N. Y., during the week ending December 28th:

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Henrich Wilhelm Sansen, captain, with rank from November 29th, vice C. Kellert, resigned.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

William R. Bunker, first lieutenant, with rank from December 10th, vice Alexander S. Fiske, resigned.

THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT (REORGANIZED).

Officers rank December 24th.

William W. Enos, lieutenant-colonel.

George W. Warren, adjutant.

Milton Converse, quartermaster.

Rudolph Horton, captain.

Birney Holcomb, first lieutenant.

Daniel D. Wait, second lieutenant.

FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

James Butcher, captain, with rank from December 11th, vice James F. McGraime, resigned.

Thomas J. Golding, first lieutenant, with rank from December 11th, vice J. Butcher, promoted.

SIXTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

George F. Perry, assistant surgeon, with rank from October 5th, original appointment.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard, S. N. Y., have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending December 28th:

December 27th, Sixth regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel B. Schwartz, full discharge, term of service expired.

December 26th, Second Lieutenant John Burke.

December 27th, Ninth regiment, First Lieutenant John A. Van Alet, Jr.

December 26th, Twenty-third regiment, Second Lieutenant B. F. Burtis.

December 26th, Twenty-third regiment, First Lieutenant A. C. Barnes.

December 27th, Squadron of Washington Grays First brigade Cavalry, Second Lieutenant Matthew O'Connell.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INDIAN TERRITORY.—Captain A. S. Kimball, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, was on duty at the New York depot in 1865 and 1866. He is now stationed at Fort Gibson, C. T., and is chief quartermaster of the District of the Indian Territory. Captain Kimball was, as we announced, placed in arrest by an officer who was temporarily commanding the district on the charge of "disrespect to his commanding officer." The case, however, was not brought before a court-martial owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, which showed that the captain was not to blame in the matter. The record of the officer who preferred the charge can best be obtained from the adjutant-general's office.

RECRUIT.—There is no difficulty in being transferred, if you can get the captain of your company and the colonel of your regiment to agree to it, as well as the colonel of the regiment and the captain of the company to which you desire to be transferred. If the uniform of both regiments is the same, you might make an arrangement with the captain of your company by which he could turn over your uniform to the captain of the company to which you are transferred, taking his receipt for the same.

FRANK G.—The *Naugatuck* originally called, but more properly the *E. A. Thom*, is now in service as one of our steam cutters at Newbern, N. C.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

REPORT OF GENERAL MILES.

BUREAU OF R. F. AND A. L.,
Headqrs Ass't Com'r State of N. C.,
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 4, 1867.

Major-General O. O. Howard, Commissioner etc., Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: At your suggestion, I beg leave to offer my opinion, as assistant commissioner for this State, regarding the expediency of continuing this bureau beyond the time fixed by law for its expiration, in July, 1868, and as to the necessity for further legislation to protect and govern the enfranchised people whose status has been so suddenly changed by our Government, and who are in consequence dependent upon it for proper laws and aid.

Having carefully considered the subject, and having made a recent trip of about five hundred miles, meeting all classes of this community, I feel I understand the true state of affairs.

In my judgment, at no period since the occupation of this section by the United States force, has the bureau been of greater advantage than at the present time; and I am convinced that stronger reasons than ever now exist for its continuance—not only for the welfare of the liberated slaves, but for the good of the new State Governments now being constructed, as well as for the interests of the General Government. Since the late elections the feeling of a large portion of the white race toward the blacks has become one of intense hatred. The evidences of revenge are to be seen every day, and reports of petty persecutions are crowding in from all points of the State.

It is to be hoped that before July next a new State Constitution will have been formed, a Civil Government organized, and North Carolina restored to her proper position in the Union; but even if this desired end should be attained, months will elapse ere proper laws can be enacted, and a still longer time before the administration of the State's civil functions are established and in thorough practice. If the bureau has been a good thing in Tennessee and Maryland, how much more would it be where affairs have been to a greater extent disordered, and opposition to the Government is so manifest. When the new State Governments are formed upon a loyal basis, it will be time to withdraw this protecting arm. This is one side of this picture; the other presents a different view.

A very large proportion of the white voters in this State at the late election either voted *against* a convention, or wilfully remained away in order that their absence might obstruct the work of reconstruction. At present there is a strong political force organizing and canvassing with the sole purpose to vote down *any* constitution the convention may adopt, and thus defeat the reconstruction acts. This opposition is controlled and led by men who have been notoriously antagonistic to the Government for years, and no efforts are spared to effect their object. If they are successful in their designs, and it is possible they may be, if the efforts to restore the State fail, if the bureau is removed, and if only a small force of United States troops be left within its limits, what, I ask, would be the fate of the enfranchised slave, who has always been considered as property, and who now has the right of suffrage, and exercises the privilege through the ballot box in direct opposition to his late owner?

The colored people in this State scarcely own land enough to stand upon. Occupying still the little slave huts under the shadow of former masters' mansions by sufferance, and without the protecting arm of the Government, they are almost as much within the grasp of their old owners as in the days of slavery. The civil courts are, as a general rule, in the hands of men whose sympathies are opposed to the terms of restoration offered by the Government. The withdrawal of the bureau, created for the protection, guidance, and elevation of four millions of people from the degradation of slavery to the dignity of citizenship, is a matter of very grave importance, and I think never should be contemplated until the colored race is able to sustain itself in the position in which the Government has placed it; and I am confident that, if the colored people were consulted as to their wishes and hopes, their united prayer would be that its protection be given them a little while longer.

I trust that Congress will act advisedly, and that the workings and results of this enterprise may be fully represented to them, as their decision involves the destiny and well-being, not only of this people, but of their descendants for generations.

I am aware that the great objection to the bureau is its expense. An erroneous impression, I believe, exists in that regard in the minds of the people through the country. Its cost in North Carolina last year was about eighty thousand dollars; this year I think it will not exceed fifty thousand, the appropriation for school purposes excepted.

I am not aware what the expenses are in the other States, but, when the vast amount of good that the colored race derive from it, and the benefits which would ultimately revert to the Government are taken into consideration, the sum is by no means exorbitant. The advantages of the bureau cannot be computed by figures.

The educational branch of the bureau would in itself be a sufficient claim for its continuance. This work, which, with the blessing of God, has already been crowned with success, and has achieved most beneficial results, should not be stayed or impeded until it has been put upon a footing that time only will strengthen.

The administration of justice, the business of adjusting claims, settling differences in cases where blacks are parties, are matters of great importance; and the amount of fraud, injustice, and oppression brought to the notice of bureau agents and civil courts is surprising. Some idea of the magnitude of this branch of duty may be inferred from the fact that there have been in one office of the bureau this State six hundred cases adjudicated in four months, and in another four hundred in the same time. Again, on the docket of one county court there are eight hundred cases awaiting trial, where freedmen are to a greater or lesser extent interested. This condition of affairs exists throughout the State.

Volumes might be written in defence of the bureau, and in showing the causes why it should be continued for some time to come. The report that it is to be withdrawn has created a feeling of alarm and sorrow among colored people and their Union friends, while great joy is expressed by their enemies and the enemies of the Government. I am sure that its immediate withdrawal from North Carolina would result in great public and private pecuniary losses; the freedmen would suffer physically, morally, and spiritually; school houses would decay; teachers would be driven out of the State; jails and penitentiaries would be filled; idleness and prodigality and want would take the place of industry and prosperity; the labor of the freedman would become unprofitable to him; and the poor, dependent, colored, laboring man, with no roof to cover his starving family, or foot of ground to call his own, would be reduced to a state of serfdom.

I have not overdrawn the picture. My statements are based upon facts, and can be corroborated by a multitude of witnesses.

As much as I desire the completion of this work which necessarily follows, and is the result of the late war, and as earnestly as I wish to avoid additional expense to the Government, yet under the present circumstances I feel it my duty, as the assistant commissioner of this State, on behalf of that portion of its population whose interest and welfare are most directly involved, to earnestly appeal to you to use your influence to continue the bureau until the great political changes and experiments now going on in this State have been completed, and their successful workings is assured.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Colonel and Brevet Major-General, U. S. A.,
Assistant Commissioner.

How merry Christmas may be made to the giver and receiver of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine, be she wife, mother, or widow.

"The luxury of doing good" may be enjoyed on Christmas day, by any one who presents wife, daughter, widow, or friend, with a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine.

STATISTICS show, that the owner or operator of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine is as well prepared for self support as a skillful mechanic with tools.

Two dollars per day may be safely guaranteed to every owner and operator of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine.

The sweetest of Christmas carols is the cheerful click of a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine.

NECESSARIES first, then luxuries: this is the rational order. The Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine before the piano.

THE REV. A. H. says: "In setting forth a bill of woman's rights, at the head of the list should be put a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine."

Mrs. Mary Howitt says: "The Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine is a realization of all her imaginings of household fairies, and good hard-working brownies."

THE list of papers with which it has been arranged to club THE GALAXY, has been considerably increased within a few weeks. Subscribers can now receive THE GALAXY together with any or all of the following periodicals, at a reduced rate: *The Army and Navy Journal*, *Harper's Weekly Bazar*, and *Monthly Magazine*, *Every Saturday*, *Our Young Folks*, *Riverside Magazine*, *American Agriculturist*, *Turf, Field and Farm*, *Wilkes' Spirit*, *Phrenological Journal*, and *Round Table*. Any person desiring to receive THE GALAXY, together with any other periodical not named in this list, will be informed of the terms at which the two may be obtained, by writing to the publishers.

CONSISTENCY! an unused piano in the parlor, and no Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine in the house; the wife doing the family sewing by hand!

THE savage may doom his squaw to grind corn, and weave by hand, but what *man* will admit that his wife does the family sewing by hand, in the land of the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine?

WOMEN may reject the ballot, but they want the Sewing Machine. Two hundred Wheeler & Wilson's are elected daily as the good genius of the household.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

MARRIED.

BENTZONI—PALMER.—On Tuesday, December 31st, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. Mr. Haynes, pastor of the Rensselaerville Baptist Church, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel CHARLES BENTZONI, U. S. Army, to Miss CORNELIA, eldest daughter of Mr. Jonathan Palmer, of Livingstonville, N. Y.

DIED.

SEAWELL.—At Gloucester, N. J., December 28, 1867, of scarlet fever, Mrs. A. G. SEAWELL, only daughter of the late Major D. D. Baker, U. S. Marine Corps, and wife of J. A. Seawell, Esq. of Virginia, and sister of Commander F. H. Baker, U. S. Navy.

CUSHMAN.—December 22, 1867, MELANCTH SMITH, youngest son of Commander Charles H. and Annie Cushman, aged two months and five days.

SEVENTH REGIMENT N. G.
BAND CONCERT.

SEVENTH SEASON.

Third Concert, SATURDAY EVENING, Jan. 11, 1868.

Tickets can be obtained at
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Importers of and dealers in Army and Navy Equipments, Caps, Chapeaux, Theatrical, Church, Society Goods and Costumers' Materials, etc., we cheerfully recommend our friends and patrons to them.

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Goods sent by express "C. O. D." everywhere.

TO PAYMASTERS.—Wanted, by a gentleman, who has been Paymaster's Clerk for over thirteen years, a position. Best of reference given. Apply at this office.

OXYGENIZED AIR;
A CURE FOR
CATARRH,

AND DISEASES OF THE THROAT AND LUNGS,

APPLIED BY

DR. C. L. BLOOD,

NO. 9 MONTGOMERY PLACE,

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CHRONIC CATARRH.

Why entertain this loathsome disease when relief can be obtained? We meet those every day who are suffering from Catarrh to such an extent, that the Air Passages in the head are in a partly decomposed condition—the nose and throat filled with such a mass of corrupt matter that they are objects of disgust to themselves, and of pity to those with whom they associate.

Chronic Catarrh usually affects the head, fauces and bronchial tubes. It is invariably caused by humoral or inflammatory blood, by which the mucous membrane is made sore or inflamed, producing a copious effusion of viscid matter. If it be produced by Scrofula in the blood it is almost certain to end in Consumption, unless speedily cured, because it is impossible to entirely prevent the matter from running down the Bronchial into the air vesicles, and such is the excoerating, or scalding property of the matter, its contact with the delicate linings of the air-cells at once causes irritation, and invites the humoral properties of the blood to deposit therein Tubercles and Ulcers.

Catarrh almost always attends Consumption, and frequently leads to it.

In Oxygenized Air we have a positive cure for this disease. The remedy is taken by inhalation—breathed directly into the lungs, and through them carried into the blood; thus as soon as the blood will carry it, it reaches all parts of the system, decomposing the impure matter in the blood and expelling it through the pores, and through the natural channels from the system. Thus you will see that the cause of the disease is removed, and the disease itself must follow.

In this same manner we treat and radically cure Bronchitis and Consumption. Let no one suffering from these diseases despair of relief. If you are too far away to visit our office and see us personally, write a description of your symptoms, and forward to the address below.

Send for our circular, which gives a full description of these diseases.

Out of the many thousands of testimonials received we publish the following:

DR. C. L. BLOOD,

Dear Sir: I desire to give you my testimony in regard to the value of your scientific system of treating catarrh and diseases of the Respiratory organs. I have used your remedy, "Oxygenized Air," in my practice for the last year with complete success. I have cured the worst forms of Catarrh, and a majority of the cases of Bronchitis and Consumption in their advanced stages. I unqualifiedly pronounce "Oxygenized Air" the greatest boon ever yet conferred upon our suffering race, and hope the day is not far distant when every intelligent physician will adopt your system in the treatment of all forms of chronic affections.

Fraternally yours,

L. M. LEE, M. D.

No. 199 Westminster street, Providence.

DR. C. L. BLOOD,

My Dear Sir: I have tested your remedy, "Oxygenized Air" in advance stages of Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption, and the results have been, in the highest sense, satisfactory; so positive am I of its wonderful power to arrest the progress of the above-named diseases that I can conscientiously advise all who may be suffering from them to place themselves under the treatment at once.

Respectfully yours,

REV. R. TOMLINSON,
Plymouth, Mass.

Send for Circular, and address

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Physicians wanted to adopt this system of practice.

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Running West from Omaha

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ARE NOW COMPLETED.

This brings the line to the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, and it is expected that the track will be laid thirty miles further, to Evans Pass, the highest point on the road, by January. The maximum grade from the foot of the mountains to the summit is but eighty feet to the mile, while that of many eastern roads is over one hundred. Work in the rock-cuttings on the western slope will continue during the Winter, and there is now no reason to doubt that the entire grand line to the Pacific will be open for business in 1870.

The means provided for the construction of this Great National Work are ample. The United States grants its Six Per Cent. Bonds at the rate of from \$16,000 to \$48,000 per mile, for which it takes a second lien as security, and receives payment to a large, if not to the full, extent of its claim in service. These Bonds are issued as each twenty-mile section is finished, and after it has been examined by United States Commissioners and pronounced to be in all respects a first-class road, thoroughly supplied with depots, repair shops, stations, and all the necessary rolling stock and other equipments.

The United States also makes a donation of 12,500 acres of land to the mile, which will be a source of large revenue to the company. Much of this land in the Platte Valley is among the most fertile in the world, and other large portions are covered with heavy pine forests and abound in coal of the best quality.

The Company is also authorized to issue its own First Mortgage Bonds to an amount equal to the issue of the Government and no more. Hon. E. D. Morgan and Hon. Oakes Ames are Trustees for the Bondholders, and deliver the Bonds to the Company only as the work progresses, so that they always represent an actual and productive value.

The authorized capital of the company is One Hundred Million Dollars, of which over five millions have been paid in upon the work already done.

EARNINGS OF THE COMPANY.
At present the profits of the Company are derived only from its local traffic, but this is already much more than sufficient to pay the interest on all the Bonds the Company can issue, if not another mile were built. It is not doubted that when the road is completed the through traffic of the only line connecting the Atlantic and Pacific States will be large beyond precedent, and, as there will be no competition, it can always be done at profitable rates.

It will be noticed that the Union Pacific Railroad is, in fact, a Government Work, built under the supervision of Government officers, and to a large extent with Government money, and that its bonds are issued under Government direction. It is believed that no similar security is so carefully guarded, and certainly no other is based upon a larger or more valuable property. As the Company's

FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS
are offered for the present at **90 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR**, they are the cheapest security in the market, being more than 15 per cent. lower than U. S. Stocks. They pay

SIX PER CENT. IN GOLD,
or over **NINE PER CENT.** upon the investment, and have thirty years to run before maturity. Subscriptions will be received in New York, at the Company's Office, No. 20 Nassau street, and by **CONTINENTAL NATIONAL BANK**, No. 7 Nassau street,

CLARK, DODGE & CO., Bankers, No. 51 Wall st.,
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and by the Company's advertised Agents throughout the United States. Remittances should be made in drafts or other funds payable in New York, and the bonds will be sent free of charge by return express. Parties subscribing through local agents, will look to them for their safe delivery.

A NEW PAMPHLET AND MAP, showing the Progress of the Work, Resources for Construction, and Value of Bonds, may be obtained at the Company's Office or of its advertised Agents, or will be sent free on application.

JOHN J. CISCO, Treasurer, New York.
November 23, 1867.

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Arrangements have been made for Clubbing THE GALAXY with other Periodicals, which offer decided advantages to those who are now selecting their reading for the Winter. By these arrangements a saving to the subscriber of from twenty per cent. upward is effected. Especial attention is invited to the following terms. The subscriptions will be commenced at any time desired.

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At one-half the usual Selling Prices. Come and see. French China Dinner Sets, 130 pieces.....\$30. French China Tea Sets, 44 pieces.....7. Imperial Parisian Stone Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets very low; handsome as China, and less in price. Cut and Pressed Goblets, from \$2 50 to \$10 per doz. Silver-plated Casters, from.....3 00 to 10 each. Silver-plated Pitchers, from.....5 00 to 10 each. Silver-plated Tea Sets, Urns, Baskets, Forks, Spoons, etc., equally low.

Fancy Toilet Sets, from \$7 to \$25. Good assortment of rich China Mantel Vases, from \$5 to \$50 per pair; one-half the Broadway and downtown prices. Decorated and Gold Band China Dinner Sets selling less than cost of importation. A fine variety of Decorated China Tea and Toilet Sets. Also, Sheffield Cutlery, Tea Trays, Plainished Tin Ware, Fire Sets, Fenders, Baths, Plate Warmers, Table and Door Mats, Refrigerators, Tables, Chairs, Clothes-Wringers, and 1,000 other articles in the line. Come and see our goods and low prices. Goods packed and shipped all over the world. Remember **HADLEY'S**, the Middle of the Cooper Institute Block.

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Attends to all Army and Navy Claims, and business at Washington, with WILLIAM SCHOUER, late Adjutant-General of Massachusetts.

TO THE ARMY AND NAVY.

NORTON & CO.,
AMERICAN BANKERS.

NO. 14 RUE AUBER, PARIS,

Would notify all officers of the Army and Navy who may visit Europe that they are prepared to attend to any business placed in their hands. All letters addressed to the care of NORTON & CO. will be at once forwarded or retained to await orders. In the reading room may be found the largest collection of American Journals on file in Europe. The ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL regularly received.

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STONE AND SEAL ENGRAVING.

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Would state to Army and Navy patrons, that they have recently added to the artistic force of the establishment, an accomplished workman in the above lines, and are able to execute the most particular orders—many of which have heretofore necessarily gone abroad. Designs, carefully prepared for private or public seals, etc., will be returned cut in the best style, by Express, to any part of the Union.

A SECOND LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY, stationed on the Atlantic coast, would like to exchange with an officer of like grade in the Cavalry, serving in the West. Address "H. H." New York, care Army and Navy Journal.

PROPOSALS

FOR

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,

SAINT PAUL, MINN., November 13, 1867.

SEALED Proposals will be received at this office, until 12 o'clock M. on the Twentieth day of January, 1868, for the transportation of Military Supplies during the year commencing April 1st, 1868, and ending March 31st, 1869, on Route No. 4, from Saint Paul, Minn., or Saint Cloud, Minn., by the shortest road or line to such Posts as are now or may be established in the State of Minnesota, and in that portion of Dakota Territory lying east of the Missouri river and bounded by it, and from Fort Stevenson or other designated points on the Missouri river eastward to present Posts, or such as may be established east or north of that river, in Dakota Territory.

The weight to be transported on this route No. 4, shall not exceed Ten Million pounds (10,000,000).

Bidders will state the rate per one hundred (100) pounds per one hundred (100) miles for each month of the year beginning April 1st, 1868, and ending March 31st, 1869.

Bidders should give their names in full as well as their places of residence, and each proposal should be accompanied by a Bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars, signed by two or more responsible persons, guaranteeing that in case a contract is awarded for the route mentioned in the proposal to the party proposing, the contract will be accepted and entered into and good and sufficient security furnished by said party in accordance with the terms of this advertisement.

The contractor will be required to give bonds in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.)

Satisfactory evidence of the loyalty and solvency of each bidder and person offered as security will be required.

Proposals must be endorsed "Proposals for Army Transportation on Route No. 4," and none will be entertained unless they fully comply with the requirements of this advertisement.

The party to whom an award is made must be prepared to execute the contract at once and to give the required bonds for the faithful performance of the contract.

The right to receive any and all bids that may be offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by the 1st day of April, 1868, and will be required to have a place of business or agency at which he may be communicated with promptly and readily for Route No. 4, at St. Paul, Minn., Fort Stevenson, Dakota Territory, or at such other point as may be indicated as the starting point of the route.

Blank forms, showing the conditions of the contract to be entered into, can be had on application at this office, or at the office of the Quartermaster at New York, Chicago, Saint Louis, Fort Leavenworth, Omaha, and Fort Snelling, and must accompany and be a part of the proposals.

S. B. HOLABIRD,
Lt. Col. Deputy Q. M. Gen., Bvt. Brig. Gen.,
U. S. A., Chief Q. M. Dep't of Dakota.

PROPOSALS FOR

COMMISSARY STORES.

SEALED PROPOSALS, in duplicate, will be received at the office of the undersigned, at Fort Gibson, C. N., until 12 o'clock M., Thursday, February 6, 1868, for the delivery of Subsistence Stores as follows:

AT FORT GIBSON, CHEROKEE NATION, INDIAN TERRITORY,

250,000 lbs. Fresh Beef, to be delivered in such quantities and at such times (daily if required), as the Post Commissary may direct.

200,000 lbs. Bacon, clear sides, in casks or sacks, and to be of the best quality.

1,000 barrels Mess Pork.

687,000 lbs. Flour, put up in sacks or barrels, and equal in quality to the best XXX St. Louis brands.

75,000 lbs. Corn Meal, of best quality, and securely put up in sacks or barrels.

5,000 gallons Cider Vinegar, of best quality, and put up in good barrels, half barrels, and kegs.

20,000 lbs. Salt, of good quality, and securely put up in sacks or barrels.

AT FORT ARBUCKLE, CHICKASAW NATION, INDIAN TERRITORY,

120,000 lbs. Fresh Beef, 70,000 lbs. Bacon, clear sides; 350 barrels Mess Pork, 220,000 lbs. Flour, 25,000 lbs. Corn Meal, 1,600 gallons Cider Vinegar, 8,000 lbs. Salt.

The deliveries at Fort Arbuckle to be made in like manner, and the stores to be of like good quality as those received at Fort Gibson.

The person or persons to whom any award is made must be prepared to execute contracts and give the required bonds at once, and be in readiness to commence the delivery of stores on the 1st day of April, 1868, and to continue the same in such quantities as may be required until the 30th day of June, 1869, or until the whole amount contracted to be furnished shall have been supplied.

Each bid must be accompanied by a good and sufficient guarantee from two or more persons (whose loyalty and solvency is certified to by a clerk of a Court of Record), setting forth that the bidder will, in case a contract is awarded, give ample bonds and security for the faithful performance of the same. The name and place of residence of each bidder and surety must be given.

No proposal will be entertained unless satisfactorily represented, that does not fully comply with the terms of this advertisement.

Proposals may be for the whole or any part of the stores required, at either or both places.

Any contract awarded under this advertisement will be made subject to the approval of the commissary-general, and the right is reserved to reject any or all bids. All stores delivered will be subject to a rigid inspection by an officer or agent appointed on the part of the United States.

Payments upon the contracts awarded will be made monthly in current funds.

Bidders are invited to be present at the opening of their proposals, which will take place on the day and hour above specified.

Proposals must be plainly endorsed, "Proposals for Commissary Stores," and addressed to the Chief Commissary, District Indian Territory.

By authority of Colonel DeL. Floyd-Jones, commanding District of the Indian Territory.

A. S. KIMBALL,
Captain and Q. M. U. S. A., Chief Commissary Sub-sistence District Indian Territory.

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FROM NEW YORK.....EVERY THURSDAY.
Price of Passage from New York to Bremen, London,
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First Cabin, \$125; Second Cabin, \$75; Steerage, \$37 50.
From Bremen to New York.
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Price of passage payable in Gold, or its equivalent
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WM. PENN.....Capt. Billings, from N. Y. Jan. 25th.
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Freight will be taken and through bills of lading
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which will be commenced the 1st of January, and
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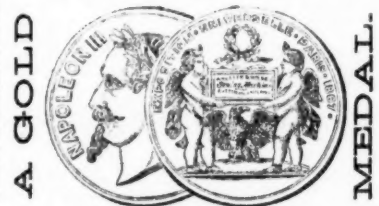
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THE PRIZE POWDER OF THE WORLD.

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One of the best sportsmen in the State writes: "With the Orange Powder I made the largest score I ever made."

In the shooting matches where this powder has been used it has been universally successful.

Wm. Taylor, Esq., the celebrated pigeon-shooter of Jersey City, says: "It is the best powder I have ever used."

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Orange Rifle, kegs 25 lbs, 12½ lbs, 6½ lbs., Fg, FFg.

Orange Rifle, canisters, 1 lb., ½ lb., FFg.

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Electro-Plate.Stamped on
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Our goods, wherever sold, invariably bear this stamp. They are heavily plated on the finest nickel silver, and are guaranteed in every respect superior to the best Sheffield plate.

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In the price is included a Case and a Cherry Stem. Silver lids cost from \$3 upward, apiece, varying according to size.

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